WHY DRINK OTHER THAN
P & O WHISKY
When you can get THAT at
Rs. 30 Per DOZEN?
OF ALL DEALERS IN THE WORLD.

The Bombay Gazette.

No. 52,224—NEW SERIES. BOMBAY:—TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 1901.

ESTABLISHED 1819.
PETER F. HEERING'S
COPENHAGEN
CHERRY BRANDY.
Sold by all respectable Wine Merchants.

SHIPPING.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY.

DEPARTURES FOR EUROPE WITH LIBERTY TO CALL AT BRINDISI AND MALTA.

SATURDAY, 5 P.M.

Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	1901.
M.L. EGYPT	7913	G. L. Langborne.	20th April.
* PENINSULAR	5247	T. Leigh	27th "
M.L. CALEDONIA	7558	E. H. Gordon	4th May
* ARABIA	7963	J. L. Parfitt	11th "
M.L. PENINSULAR	5257	T. Leigh	18th "
* ORIENTAL	5284	J. F. Jephson	25th "
M.L. ARABIA	7903	J. L. Parfitt	1st June "
* PERSIA	8003	W. A. Wheler	8th "
M.L. ORIENTAL	5284	J. P. Jephson	15th "
* EGYPT	7912	G. L. Langborne	22nd "
M.L. PERSIA	8000	W. A. Wheler	29th "

The steamers marked M. L. proceed to Marseilles, Plymouth and London, passengers for Brindisi transhipping at Port Said.

The Steamers marked* proceed to Aden only, and Passengers transhipthere or Brindisi, Marseilles, Plymouth or London.

HEAVY BAGGAGE must be sent to the BALLARD PIER on FRIDAY AFTERNOON the day previous to Sailing, and CABIN BAGGAGE before 9 A.M. on SATURDAY. The attention of Passengers is called to the importance of having their Baggage Labelled with Port of Destination.

Tenders leave the Ballard Pier on day of Sailing. All Passengers must attend at that place between 11 A.M., and 12-30 P.M., for medical inspection by the Health Officer of the Port, and no one will be allowed on board the Mail Steamer unless so examined and conveyed thence in the Company's steam barges. Special attention is directed to these regulations, which are imperative under the Venice Convention.

Friends of passengers cannot go on board the Mail Steamer.

TO COLOMBO, STRAITS, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

The Company's STEAMERS LEAVE BOMBAY FORTNIGHTLY, usually on TUESDAY, taking Passengers for the STRAITS, CHINA, and JAPAN, and return Tickets are issued on favourable terms.

Cargo Steamers are despatched to China at frequent intervals sailing at Ports en route.

F. RITCHIE,
Superintendent, P. & O. S. N. Company.

Bombay, 27th March, 1901.

AUSTRIAN LLOYD S. N. Co.

UNDER MAIL CONTRACT WITH THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT.

TO TRIESTE DIRECT VIA ADEN, SUEZ AND PORT SAID.

Steamer.	Captain.	Tons	To sail on
IMPERATRIX	C. Beilen	4,140	1st May 1901.
* IMPERATOR	A. Fellner	4,119	1st June "

* She will call at Karachi.

PASSAGE MONEY.

	1st Class.	2nd Class.	Deck.
TRIESTE OR VENICE	Rs. 900.	Rs. [illegible]	Rs. 165.

TO TRIESTE, VIA KURRACHEE, ADEN, SUEZ PORT SAID AND FIUME.

Steamer.	Captain.	Tons.	To sail
TRIESTE	A. Mihs	5082	in May 1901.
MARIA VALERIE	P. Berberovich	4,5[illegible]	1st Aug. 1901.

PASSAGE MONEY BY THE ROUTE.

	Saloon.	Deck.
TO TRIESTE OR VENICE	Rs. 412-8	Rs. 165.

RETURN TICKETS TO TRIESTE AND VENICE.

	1st Class.	2nd Class.
Available for 6 months	Rs. 1,[illegible]	Rs. 6[illegible]
Available for 12 months	" 1,165	" 6[illegible]

THROUGH TICKETS TO LONDON

1st and 2nd Class Single and Return Tickets are issued via Trieste, the St. Gothards, and other Routes.

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE MESSAGERIES MARITIMES CO.

The Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Austrian Lloyd's and the Return Voyage by the Messageries Maritimes Co., at reduced rates.

This arrangement will prove of special advantage to Passengers on three months' privilege leave.

Passengers to VENICE transhipat TRIESTE to another steamer of the Company, which takes about 6 hours to cross the Gulf.

STEAM TO SINGAPORE, HONGKONG, AND SHANGHAI.

Steamer.	Captain.	Tons.	To sail on or about
MELPOMENE	C. Mateovich	2,968	23rd April, 1901.

For further particulars, Freight, Passage, &c., apply to

E. SCARPA, Agent.
Sassoon House, 52, Church Gate Street.

Bombay, 15th April, 1901.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

TO MARSEILLES.

Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	To sail on THURSDAY,
OCEANIEN	4,249	Schmitz	9th May, 1901.
INDUS	6,257	Duchateau	6th June 1901.
SYDNEY	4,232	Aubert	4th July, 1901.

TO COLOMBO, SINGAPORE, JAVA, SAIGON, TONQUIN, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

S. S. "SYDNEY," Captain Oubert, 4,232 tons, to sail on or about 1st May, 1901.

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S. N. Co.

The Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Messageries Maritimes, and the return voyage by the Austrian Lloyd's at Reduced Fares. This arrangement will prove, in some cases, of special advantage to Passengers on three months' privilege leave.

For further Particulars apply to

C. RUINAT, Agent.

New Oriental Bank Buildings, 57, Esplanade Road, Bombay.

THOS. COOK AND SON.

BANKERS, PASSENGER AND FORWARDING AGENTS.

PASSAGES PROMPTLY ENGAGED by P. & O. Mail and all other Steamers, including Non-Liners, FREE of CHARGE for COMMISSION.

SECOND SALOON accommodation by P. & O. at Favourable Rates, and special attention to the Selection of Berths and Grouping of Passengers.

THROUGH TICKETS issued from any Railway Stations in India to all parts of the Globe.

CONTINENTAL RAILWAY TICKETS allowing breaks of journey at all places of interests.

SPECIAL REDUCTIONS to Missionaries and Railway Officials.

PASSENGERS with COOK'S Tickets met and assisted at Bombay, Calcutta, London, Liverpool, Brindisi, Naples, Venice, Genoa, Marseilles, Paris, Colombo, and all Chief Continental Ports and Cities.

OUTWARD PASSAGES engaged and Tickets supplied from any part of the world to India.

HOTEL COUPONS available at over 2,000 Hotels.

REDUCED FARES for Missionaries and Government Officials to Europe, via China and America.

PASSENGERS' BAGGAGE received, forwarded and insured against theft and all risks.

PACKAGES of every description stored and shipped as cargo to all Ports at Lowest Rates.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened and amounts placed on DEPOSIT for FIXED PERIODS or to be available for HOME REMITTANCE.

LOANS granted against approved security.

DRAFTS issued and REMITTANCES made.

CIRCULAR NOTES and LETTERS of CREDIT supplied for the use of Travellers, also SOVEREIGNS and BANK NOTES.

STOCK and SHARES bought and sold. DIVIDENDS, PAY and PENSIONS collected and every description of Banking and Agency Business transacted.

BOMBAY, CALCUTTA, RANGOON COLOMBO.

SHIPPING.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED,

Intend to despatch Steamers as follows:—

FOR KURRACHEE DIRECT.

S. S. "KOLA," 1,192 tons, on FRIDAY, 19th April, at 2 p.m., or later on arrival of the English Mail.

FOR COAST AND KURRACHEE.

S. S. "AMRA," 535 tons, on TUESDAY, the 16th April, at 10 a.m., calling at Veraval, Mangrole, Porbundar, and Cutch Mandvie, (weather permitting).

FOR KURRACHEE AND PERSIAN GULF.

S. S. "KILWA," 1,552 tons, on THURSDAY, the 18th April, at 10 a.m., calling at Kurrachee, Gwadur, Muscat, Bunder Abbas, Linga, Bushire, Fao, Mahomerah, and Bussrah, in the foregoing or any order (weather permitting).

FOR ADEN, MOMBASA, ZANZIBAR, LAMU, IBO, MOZAMBIQUE, BEIRA AND DELAGOABAY.

S. S. "GOA," 1,903 tons, on or about WEDNESDAY, the 17th April.

FOR COAST PORTS, AND CALCUTTA.

S. S. HENZADA, 2,078 tons, on or about SATURDAY, 20th April.

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & Co., Agents.

Bombay, 15th April 1901.

KING, KING & CO.,

BANKERS AND EAST INDIA AGENTS, BOMBAY.

PASSAGES engaged, and best available Berths secured, at Lowest Rates obtainable by P. & O., and all other Steamers, FREE OF CHARGE for COMMISSION.

LATEST LIST of SAILINGS, Fares, and full information furnished by return of post, on application.

Special attention paid to the grouping of Passengers travelling 2nd Class by P. & O.

EVERY ASSISTANCE rendered to Passengers on arrival in Bombay. Baggage taken over at the Railway Stations and Shipped.

SPECIAL AGENTS of the Firm meet all Steamers at BRINDISI and MARSEILLES.

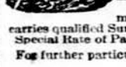
PACKAGES of every description received for despatch as CARGO to Messrs. Henry S. King & Co., London; or Messrs. King, Baillie & Co., Liverpool. Freight and Marine Insurance at the Lowest Rates. QUOTATIONS FURNISHED on APPLICATION.

KING, HAMILTON & CO.,

CALCUTTA.

HENRY S. KING & Co., LONDON.

ANCHOR LINE.



THE S. S. "ARABIA" of 3341 Tons, WILL SAIL for HAVRE direct, about the 20th April.

She has Excellent First Class accommodation in three berthed Cabins and carries qualified Surgeons and Stewardess.

Special Rate of Passage.

For further particulars apply to

AGENTS:—
W. & A. GRAHAM, & Co.
Fort, Bombay.

Graham's Buildings, Bombay, 10th April, 1901.

HOMEWARD PASSAGES.

GRINDLAY, GROOM & Co., BOMBAY.

GRINDLAY & Co.,
CALCUTTA,
BANKERS AND AGENTS.

PASSAGES booked without charge, and on favourable terms. Berths carefully selected.
SLEEPING Car and CONTINENTAL RAILWAY TICKETS procured.
RAILWAY OFFICIALS AND MISSIONARIES booked at reduced rates.
PASSAGES booked to ENGLAND via JAPAN and AMERICA, by the Canadian Pacific, Occidental and Oriental and Pacific Mail Routes.
HANDBOOK giving details of Fares, &c., and of Saillings by all Lines, sent FREE on Application.
PASSENGERS met on arrival.
BAGGAGE shipped and cleared and Insurance effected covering all risks.
PACKAGES cleared or shipped.
CIRCULAR NOTES, BANK NOTES, DRAFTS, and SOVEREIGNS, at current rates.

London Agents, GRINDLAY & CO.

DOCTOR MENIST'S SPECTACLES.

REVISED PRICES.

	Gold. Rs.	Silver Rs.	Steel & Nickel Rs.
With Turnpin Side	50	28	14
With Single Temple	50	24	13
With Cure	50	24	13
Folders or Pince-Nes	50	24	13

SPECTACLES AND FOLDERS FITTED WITH MARCKS AND CO'S

Finest quality PEBBLES, at a REDUCTION of Rs. 5 on above Prices for Gold and Silver, and Rs. 4 for Steel.

Our new "Movillete" Frame which has gained universal admiration

THROUGHOUT INDIA IS WORTH INSPECTING.

Our Celebrated Violet Tinted Sun Glare and Dust Glasses, strongly recommended by all the leading men.

Gold. Rs.	Silver. Rs.	Nickel. Rs.	Steel. Rs.
60	25	12	5

NOTICE.

SPECIAL ATTENTION is given to all REPAIRS which are executed with the greatest precision and least possible delay. Oculist's prescriptions CAREFULLY PREPARED.

MARCKS & CO., LD.,

BOMBAY AND POONA.

R. SCOTT & CO., M. R. C. V. S.

VETERINARY AND COMMISSION STABLES, GIRGAUM.

CHARGERS, Polo Ponies, Hacks and Carriage Horses selected for Local and Up-country Constituents. Horses Shod on the most approved principles under Personal Supervision.

Horses broken to single (Rs. 15), and double Harness (Rs. 30), and Saddle (Rs. 15). Raw Walers Charged extra.

	Rs.
Horses standing at Livery, on Commission Sale or for treatment including Syce per mensem	35
Commission on Horses Bought or Sold	17
Examination and Certificate	10
Verbal opinion as to Soundness	5

CRUSHED HORSE FOOD, best in the market, Present Price Rs. 5-8 per CWT. Delivered Free.

Special Mixtures, CRUSHED OATS, BRAN, etc. supplied.

BEERS, STOUT, CIDER

GUINNESS'S DUBLIN STOUT.

BASS'S BEERS.
Bottled by FOSTER & STONE.

ROMFORD LIGHT BITTER ALE,
Bottled especially for the Company by
IND COOPE & Co.

PILSENER BEER

SPARKLING
DEVONSHIRE CIDER
MESSRS. FOSTER & SONS' Bottling.

SPECIAL TERMS TO MESSES AND CLUBS.

TREACHER & CO., LD.,
BOMBAY. BYCULLA. POONA.

INDIAN CIGARETTES.

THE "LIGHT OF ASIA" BRAND,

MADE PURELY OF THE FINEST

"INDIAN TOBACCO"

WITHOUT PAPER.

THE INDIAN ARMY SERIES.

EACH PACKET of these Cigarettes contains an Illustration of an Indian Regiment. The Illustrations will be continued until the whole Army has been given, forming a UNIQUE AND INTERESTING COLLECTION.

"Each box contains 100 finest hand made Cigarettes without Paper.
Price Rs. 25-0 per 1,000.

McDOWELL & Co., LD.,

MADRAS AND LONDON.

THE ITALIAN STORES.
C. COLONNELLO SON & CO.
105, MEDOW STREET, FORT, BOMBAY.

GORGONZOLA, PARMESAN AND GRUYERE CHEESE.
MILAN SAUSAGES AND GERMAN SAUSAGES IN SKIN.
FRANKFORT AND HARD SMOKED SAUSAGES IN TINS.
VIENNA SAUSAGES WITH SAWKRANT IN TINS.
BISMARCK AND IMPERIAL HERRINGS IN TOMATO AND MUSHROOM SAUCE.

ABSINTHE (PERNOD FILS).
KUMMEL.
MANDARINO (LIQUEUR).
ANISETTE (BRIZARD & ROGERS).
KIRSCHENWASSER.
CREMES & LIQUEURS ASSORTED.
MASTICA CHIO, Rs. 2-8 Per Bottle.
DUC DE MARSAT (dry) CHAMPAGNE.
ASTI SPUMANTE (SPARKLING).
FRENCH VERMOUTH (NOILLY PRAT).
ITALIAN VERMOUTH (TORINO).
MALAGA, BARBERA & other WINES.

ITALIAN RICE; MACARONI & VERMICELLI ASSORTED;
LENTILS and SPLIT PEAS; WALNUTS, HAZELNUTS,
ALMONDS, MALAGA RAISINS FRESH STOCK.
MANGOES AFFONSA & FERNANDINA preserved in Syrup.
ATTENTION is drawn to our celebrated
GRIGNOLINO CLARET, a thoroughly genuine article.
Only Rs. 10 per dozen quarts.

TO TRAVELLERS
BY LAND OR SEA.

MARCKS & Co.'S Establishment offers a large Selection of

FITTED SUIT CASES
and TRAVELLING BAGS
For LADIES and GENTLEMEN.

That every Bag or Case is the Best English made is a guarantee for Excellence.

MARCKS & CO., LD.,

BOMBAY AND POONA.

PRICE LIST OF
CIGARETTES.
MANUFACTURED BY THE
DOUBLE ANCHOR SOCIETY OF ADEN.

THE CIGARETTES are manufactured of EXTRA FLOWERS, AROMATIC, MILD and FULL FLAVOURED.

REAL YENIDJEH TURKISH TOBACCO,

they are guaranteed hand made by expert European Cigarette Makers.
On trial they will be found superior to many other Brands sold locally at double the price.

LARGE SIZES.		Rs.	A.	SMALL SIZES,		Rs.	A.
ROYAL	per 100	4	12	ROYAL	per 100	3	12
EXTRA	"	3	12	EXTRA	"	3	0
IMPERIAL	"	2	12	IMPERIAL	"	2	8
EXTRA FINE				FINE	"	2	4
GOLD TIPPED	per 50	2	12	PRINCESS	"	1	8

SPECIAL TERMS TO CLUBS, MESSES AND THE TRADE.

V. FUCILE & CO.,
GENERAL AGENTS, BELOW BOMBAY CLUB,
BOMBAY.

INSURANCES.

ORIENTAL
GOVERNMENT SECURITY
LIFE ASSURANCE
COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE RETURNS FOR 1900
SHOW
INCREASED BUSINESS
AND
LARGE INCREASE TO FUNDS,
WHICH NOW EXCEED
Rs. 1,70,00.000.
and are invested in
GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

Claims Paid for Over ONE CRORE,
since the Company was established.

LOWEST SAFE RATES,
UNQUESTIONABLE SECURITY,
LIBERAL SURRENDER VALUES,
IMMEDIATE PAYMENT OF CLAIMS.

Full particulars and Forms may be obtained on Application at the Company's Offices.

ORIENTAL BUILDINGS, BOMBAY.

H. G. W. MEIKLE, F. F. A.,
Acting Manager.

INSURANCES.

L'UNION FIRE INSURANCE CO.
LIMITED, OF PARIS.
ESTABLISHED IN 1828.
Capital Reserve and Guarantee,
Francs 103,000,000 or over £4,000,000.

WE, the Undersigned, have been APPOINTED CHIEF REPRESENTATIVES of L'Union Fire Insurance Co., Ld., of Paris, and are now prepared to Transact Fire Insurance Business at Current Rates.

TATA & SONS,
Chief Representatives for Bombay.
Messrs. ZIFFO & CO.,
Chief Representatives for Calcutta.

HORSE'S FOOD,
Mixed Rs. 5 per cwt.

ALSO GRAM, BARLEY, OATS, BRAN, MAIZE &c. best crushed, uncrushed and well cleaned food can be had here at moderate rates.

GANGJI PADAMSI,
DANNA BUNDER, ARGYLE ROAD, No. 2,
BOMBAY.

A BOON TO MEN & WOMEN.

ATANK-NIGRAH PILLS.—A successful remedy based on most advanced and modern researches in the Ayurved, or Native Medical Science, for nervous diseases and physical debility, premature exhaustion and loss to vital energy with other allied affections.

A Pamphlet, containing Testimonials from Europeans, will be sent free of charge on application.

To be had of
VAIDYA SHASTRI MANISHANKAR GOVINDJI,
Atank-Nigrah Pharmacy,
KALKADEVI ROAD, BOMBAY.

NEWSPAPER SUPPLY AGENCY,
15, BANK STREET
THIS AGENCY SUPPLIES
THE
BOMBAY DAILY PAPERS
FOR PERUSAL IN THE
MORNING AND NOON
AT MODERATE MONTHLY SUBSCRIPTION,
ALSO
HOME-PAPERS AND MAGAZINES.
Mofussil Residents are also supplied with Papers.
FOR TERMS APPLY TO
VINCENT AND COMPANY.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

COMMERCIAL BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.

Issue of Rs. 20,00,000 6 % Preference Shares, Rs. 100 each.

APPLICATIONS for the above Shares are now being received and Registered at the Head Office, Branches, and Agencies. THE LIST of Shares reserved for Shareholders being closed, a limited number of Shares is available to the general public.

Previous applicants are reminded that the payment of the final call was due on the 31st March.

Application Forms may be obtained at the Head Office or any of the Branches or Agencies.

By Order of the Board.

REG. MURRAY,
Chief Manager.

Calcutta, 1st April, 1901.

C. S. BARTLEY & CO.

CYCLE MAKERS, ENAMELLERS, PLATERS AND CHEAPEST DEALERS AND REPAIRERS,

2, ALEXANDRIA TERRACE, OPPOSITE BYCULLA STATION.

TRUE EX RACTS out of numerous TESTIMONIALS received by our Foreman:—

The Honourable Mr. Justice H. Batty Judge, High Court, Bombay:—I am quite astonished by the skill and despatch with which he repairs cycles.

Lieutenant-Colonel F. A. Bromfield, 1st Cheshire Regiment:—He has repaired my Bike easily and well.

Captain H. A. Reid, Commandant No. 3, Field Battery:—He has repaired a Bicycle for me which I thought was too a gone for repairs.

Up-country Orders will be promptly attended to.

THE STANDARD.

A SCOTTISH LIFE OFFICE of 74 years' standing, and one of the wealthiest and most progressive of the Provident Institutions of the United Kingdom.

PREMIUMS MODERATE.

CONDITIONS LIBERAL.

F. A. PREVOST, Secretary, Bombay.

THE FUNDS have increased FIFTY PER CENT during the last 15 years, and now amount to over 9½ MILLIONS STERLING.

BINNY & Co., Chief Agents, Madras.

GRINDLAY, GROOM & CO.,

BOMBAY.

GRINDLAY & CO., CALCUTTA.

BANKERS AND AGENTS.

SHIPPING DEPARTMENT.

BAGGAGE received and shipped, landed and forwarded or Stored.

PACKAGES and PARCELS forwarded to England and elsewhere.

PACKAGES from EUROPE Cleared through the Customs and Despatched. To avoid delay, the Shippers should be instructed to send to us direct the Bill of Lading and Invoice.

INSURANCES, Marine, Life, and Fire, effected with Offices of standing.

H. M. TROOPSHIPS.

Every assistance afforded to Officers proceeding to and from England.

LONDON AGENTS:—

MESSRS. GRINDLAY & Co.

NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA, LD,

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL ...£1,000,000
PAID-UP CAPITAL £500,000
RESERVE FUND £350,000

HEAD OFFICE:

37 THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E. C.

BRANCHES:

Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Colombo, Kurrachee, Lahore, Delhi, Rangoon, Mandalay, Tuticorin, Amritsar, Kandy, Newera Elya, Zanzibar, Steamer Point, Aden, Cawnpore and Mombassa.

FIXED DEPOSITS.

The Bank receives DEPOSITS FIXED for one year and shorter periods, as Rates of interest to be ascertained on application.

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS are opened for approved Customers, and interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on daily balances from Rs. 1,000 up to Rs. 100,000, but no Interest is allowed when the sum accrued does not amount to Rs. 10 half-yearly.

BILLS OF EXCHANGE payable in the principal Cities of Europe, India, China, and Australia purchased or collected.

DRAFTS are granted on the Head Office and Branches of the Bank and on the principle Cities of Europe and Australia. Remittances may be made by telegram.

The Bank undertakes the purchase and sale of Government Securities, Stocks, and Shares, and receives same for safe custody realising Interest and Dividends when due.

LOANS and CASH CREDITS granted on approved Securities.

H. CHALMERS, Manager.

BONZOLINE BILLIARD BALLS,

As used by the Champion in all his matches.

Can be had from

John Roberts & Co., Ltd.

BOMBAY.

SALES BY AUCTION

MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON & COMPANY, No. 4, FORBES & MEDOWS STREETS, FORT.

BONA-FIDE SALE.

SALE OF OFFICE FURNITURE, IRON SAFES, HANDSOME HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, PERSIAN CARPETS, POTTERY, FOOLCARY PURDAHS, &c.

By Order of N. C. Macleod, Esq., Official Assignee, H. C., and in re Jehangir Byramjee Madraswalla, an insolvent, trading under the name of Jehangir Byramjee and Co., Messrs. MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON and Co. will sell by Public Auction, on THURSDAY, the 18th April, at 2-30 p.m., at their Sale Room No. 4, Forbes and Medows Streets, Fort, consisting of office, writing and side tables, iron treasury safes with stands, copying press with table, chairs cupboards, bookstand, screen, odd sides, arm, printed forms and books, candlesticks, umbrella, writing materials, cotton samples, &c.

Also, by order of Lieut.-Col. Waters, the following rich furniture removed from the Byculla Club, consisting of english iron bed with spring mattress, P.P. reclining sofa wash bendier, wardrobe, teapoys, writing, dressing and wash hand tables with fittings, easels, screen, folding table, office folding and easy chairs, rat stick, book and linen racks, rich pottery, Persia carpets, foolcary purdahs, toilet glass, table-top case, table linen, bath tub, commode, tin box, cot stretchers, antimacassars, uniform coat, armeture, &c.

Property on view.

SALE OF MATERIALS OF CHAWL (BUNGALOW) AND STABLE SHEDS Nos. 191-193 AT BELLASIS ROAD, BYCULLA.

Under instructions from the Bombay Improvement Trust, Messrs. MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON and Co. will sell by Public Auction on FRIDAY, the 19th April, at 3-30 p.m. on the premises, the whole of the materials for removal of chawl (bungalow) and stable sheds Nos. 191-193, situate at Bellasis Road, Byculla.

For further particulars and conditions of sale, apply to the undersigned.

MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON & Co.

Bombay, April 16, 1901.

A. READYMONEY & COMPANY, BANK STREET, FORT.

SALE OF S.S. "SETOS."

Under instructions from the Agent, German East Africa Line, Mr. A. Strandes, Messrs. A. READYMONEY & Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction at their Rooms in Bank and Green Streets, Fort, TO-MORROW, WEDNESDAY, the 17th instant, at 3 p.m., on account of whom it may concern, the s.s. "Setos," of about 1,204 tons register, as she now lies sunk in the Bombay Harbour, near Middle Ground Battery.

A deposit of 50 per cent. will be required at the time of sale.

For further conditions of sale, apply to the undersigned.

A. READYMONEY & Co.

Bombay, April 16, 1901.

SPECIAL SHORT ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Scale for these Advertisements is as follows:—Not exceeding 3 lines, Re. 1, each succeeding line, As. 8. No Trade Advertisements are admitted under this Scale.

MAHABLESHWAR DAK.—Comfortable Phaeton and Tonga Daks, ready laid between Wathar and Mahableshwar, at Low Rates. BURJORJI PEROSHAW, Diplomaed Dak Supplier to H. E. Governor and C.-in-C., 153, Main Street, Poona.

PRETTY NECKLACES in delicate Chains, for wear close round throat. A number of patterns for selection. MARCUS & Co., Ld., Bombay & Poona.

EK-DAM RINGWORM SPECIFIC.—The only Remedy known which cures Ringworm or Dhobies' Itch in one application. Per bottle, Ans. 12. Prepared only by THOMSON and TAYLOR, 35, Esplanade Road, Bombay.

BOOK-KEEPING and COMMERCIAL CLASSES, every Morning, Week-days or Sundays, for all recognised EXAMS. Rs. 75, course passing guaranteed, or Rs. 5 monthly by S. R. DAVER, M. E. A., Passed at London, 9, Elphinstone Circle.

ASQUITH & LORD, opposite Clock Tower.—NEW WANGHUI CANES. Burnt Ash, Olive Green, and Browns. Rs. 2 each, Silver Mounted Rs. 2-8 each. Choice Walking Sticks, New Handles, from Rs. 2-8 each. All New. Inspection invited.

LANOWLI.—The Well-known LANOWLI HOTEL TO BE LET with Furniture, Open to Europeans only. Apply for Rooms F. M. Dotivala, Lanowli.

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NOTICE.

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders of the above Company will be held at the Registered Office of the Company, No. 8, Forbes Street, Fort, on WEDNESDAY the 24th instant, at 4 P.M., to transact the following business:—

1. To receive and adopt the Directors' Report, Audited Balance-Sheet and Profit and Loss Account for the year ending 31st December, 1900.
2. To confirm the appointment of Mr. John Owens as a Director.
3. To elect two Directors in place of those who retire by rotation but who are eligible for re-election.
4. To appoint Auditors for the ensuing year, and to fix their remuneration.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from WEDNESDAY, the 24th April, 1901, to WEDNESDAY, the 8th May, 1901, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
ARDESHIR EDULJEE DALAL, Secretary.

No. 8, Forbes Street, Bombay, 10th April, 1901.

ROYAL BOMBAY YACHT CLUB.

UNDER Rule XXIX a SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of Members will be held at the Club House, at 6 P.M., on TUESDAY, the 16th April 1901.

BUSINESS.

To consider the validity of the Resolution proposed without notice and adopted as an amendment to Rule I of the Revised Rules at the General Meeting held on WEDNESDAY, the 27th March, 1901, and if necessary to cancel the same.

A. M. FINLAY, Secretary.

6th April, 1901.

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The Corporation GRANT DRAFTS on the above Agencies and Branches; buy and receive for collection Bills of Exchange; issue Letters of Credit; and undertake general banking business.

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F. BENNETT,
Acting Agent.

Bombay Agency, Elphinstone Circle.

THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF INDIA LIMITED.

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By Order of the Board,
F. D. STRANACK,
Manager.

Oriental Buildings, Bombay, 1st May, 1900.

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PAID UP CAPITAL..... ,, 18,000,000
RESERVE FUND..... ,, 8,130,000

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BOMBAY BRANCH.

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DRAFTS granted on JAPAN, and the Chief Commercial places in the World.

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HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Paid up Capital	$ 100,00,000
Sterling Reserve Fund	$ 100,00,000
Silver Reserve Fund	$ 30,00,000
Reserve Liability of Proprietors	$ 100,00,000

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SIR THOMAS JACKSON, *Chief Manager.*

London Bankers.—LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, LD.,

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COLOMBO.	NAGASAKI.	SOUKABAYA.
FOOCHOW.	NEW YORK.	TIENTSIN.
HAMBURG.	PEKING.	YOKOHAMA.

BOMBAY AGENCY.

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.

Interest allowed at 1 per cent. per annum on Daily Balance if not under Rs. 1,000, and not exceeding Rs. 1,00,000; but no interest is allowed when the sum accrued does not amount to Rs. 5 half-yearly.

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are received for 12 months at 4 per cent per annum and for shorter periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.

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47, Church Gate Street, Bombay.

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

BOMBAY, MONDAY APRIL 15.

EXCHANGE.

The market has been steady throughout the day, without any change in rates and very little business passing.

Bank T. T.	1s. 3 29-32d.
Do Demand	1s. 3 15-16d.
3 months credits	1s. 4 5-32d.
Do Francs	199 3-4
30 days Japan	197
Do Hongkong	144
Do Shanghai	148

THE following is the statement of the affairs of the Bank of Bombay for the week ended the 13th April, as compared with the statement of the 4th April :—

LIABILITIES	April 4. Rs.	April 13. Rs.
Capital	1,00,00,000	1,00,00,000
Reserve Fund	70,00,000	70,00,000
Public Deposits at Head Office	52,45,630	51,55,629
Public Deposits at Branches	63,36,446	68,63,093
Other Deposits	4,57,87,458	4,51,12,310
Post Bills	13,283	13,283
Credits undrawn	14,78,195	17,10,583
Rs...	7,59,30,412	7,58,52,906
ASSETS.		
Government Securities	88,82,220	88,77,841
Other authorised Securities	11,58,727	9,98,918
Credits, on Govt. and other authorised Securities	63,31,587	66,45,656
Loans do. do	1,57,70,933	1,57,04,129
Bills Discounted and purchased	2,23,56,864	2,24,38,143
Dead Stock	3,73,779	3,73,794
Stamps and Stationery	27,382	27,375
Balances with other Banks	3,68,495	3,78,821
Cash	1,66,59,985	1,74 09,096
Rs.	7,59,30,412	7,58,52,906

GOVERNMENT PAPER.

The market opened at Rs. 96-2 and remained at this rate during the day, with however but little business doing.

STOCKS AND SHARES.

This market is quiet with no change in prices to report.

FREIGHTS.

It is reported that a steamer has been fixed at Home to load from this port for May at 15s. 9d. There has been very little business doing to-day in a steady market, on the other hand relets are offering at 15s. 9d. this month for Havre and Antwerp, and 16s. next month for Havre and Dunkirk. The higher rates now asked are to some extent stopping business.

WHEAT.

The market keeps steady at Rs. 4-6 for White Delhi, April-May.

SEEDS.

LINSEED.—Business is reported at Rs. 8-7 in a firm market.

RAPESEED.—There is a good enquiry for

Brown Delhi at	Rs. 6-2
,, Cawnpore	,, 6-1
Yellow Cawnpore	,, 6-11

White Yellow Guzerat is quoted nominal at Rs. 7-8

POPPYSEED.—The Market is steady and there is some enquiry for ready stuff at Rs. 7-14 for April May at Rs. 7-10-6.

CASTOR SEED.—The enquiry is better for this article at Rs. 33 to Rs. 33-4-

GINGELLYSEED.—The market is firm with rates nominal and no sellers.

COTTON.

The market has been steady but unaltered from Saturday. Europe shippers have been offering for little while there is considerably less disposition to buy, on the part of Japan exporters and local mills. The business reported has in consequence been small amounting to about 1,500 bales. In contracts there was like enquiring and like reported :—

The following are the receipts of Cotton and Produce into Bombay during the 24 hours ended at 6 p.m. on Saturday, 13th April, 1901 :—

Cotton	9,232 bales.
Wheat	7,613 cwts.
Linseed	11,230 ,,
Rapeseed	13,138 ,,
Gingellyseed	3,200 ,,
Poppyseed	2,612 ,,
Groundnuts	88 ,,
Castorseed	6,024 ,,
Rice	9,880 ,,
Myrabollams	3,602 ,,

HIGH COURT.—APRIL 16.

Before the Hon'ble The Chief JUSTICE and the Hon'ble Mr Justice B. TYABJEE

For Judgment.

1148—E F Nicholson—The Secretary of State for India in Council vs Jehangir Manekjee Cursetjee—Ardeshir H D and Co.

For Consent Decree.

225-02—Little and Co—Salley Mahomed Jafferbhoy and others vs Lady Jambai and others—Muljee and R. Little and Co, P K and K, and Captain and V.

275-93—Little and Co—Salley Mahomed Jafferbhoy vs Lady Jambai.

Appeals for hearing and final disposal.

1105—Framjee and D—Hajee Goolam Mahomed Azam v Captain T Turner and another—Crawford B and Co

1109—Little and Co—Hajee Hassam Haji Jackeria vs Noorbe. and others—Mulla and M and Thakurdas and Co. Part heard.

1111—Mansukla D and J—N C Macleod vs Kika Khushal—Payne G S and M.

1117—In person—Vasta Kara Sonee and others vs Lullichand Meghjee and Co

1119—Nanu and H—Sakinaboo vs Asmaboo—Payne G S & M

1139—Edgelow G and W—Pragdas Sagarmal vs Girdhurdas Mathuradas and other—Hiralal M and M

623-00—Oraigie L and O—Lalljee Govindjee and another vs Dharamsee Meghjee—Payne G S and M.

Before the Hon'ble Mr Justice RUSSEL.

Suits for hearing and final disposal.

Short Causes.

228-229-00—Little and Co—Damodhar Hemrondas and another vs Poonamall Jethanand and others.

230-00—Little and Co—Toolsidas Samidas and others vs Poonamal Jethanand and others.

305-00—Payne G S and M—Kastoor Haridas and another vs Keserbai and others.

466-00—Payne G S and M—Bhirubaku Bagla vs Zalikabai and others—Ardeshir H and D and M and M.

672-00—Balkrishna V N and K—Abba Rahimtoola vs Hajee Ally Suleman.

664-00—Matubhai J and M—Maganlal Damodhurdas vs Khoja Damjee Laljee.

724—Dikshit and D—Bai Saravatibai vs Dossabhai Cuvorjee Doctor and another—Pestonjee R and K.

906-00—R N Motabhoy—Pestonjee Nowrojee Motabhoy vs Bai Hirabai and another—Tyabjee D and Co

844-00—Mantri and B—Abirchand Kastoorchand and others vs Motichand Ramlal—In person.

888-00—Wadia and G—Hormusjee Manockjee Dadachanjee vs Vithaldas Khetsey—Jamsetjee and R.

10-01—Bhaishanker and K—Chunilal Kasturchand and others vs Hajbnath Gocaldas and others—N M Cama.

92-01—Wadia and G—Hajee Elias Ally vs Abdool Sakoor Hajee Joonas.

63-01—Wadia and G—Hajee Elias Ally vs Memon Seedick Hajee Soomar.

90-01—Mansukhl D and J—Dicanath Vishnu Magookor and others vs Jey Narayen Dhanuker and another.

98-01—Little and Co—Beg Mahomed Hajee Abd Rahiman vs Maneckjee Edaljee Contractor—Pestonji R & K.

103-01—Wadia and G—Hajee Elias Ally vs Abdool Sakoor Hajee Joonas.

112-01—Nanu and H—Fatabai widow and another vs Ebrahim Jiva and another—Kanga and R.

120-01—Crawford B and Co—The Trustees for the Improvement for the City of Bombay vs Vithaldas Khetsey—Smetham B N.

120-01—M H Khan—Memon Abdul Rahim Hajee Mussoor vs Mayaram Dayaram.

137-01—Ardeshir H D and Co—Koja Suleman Rahimtoola vs Abdul Rahim Hajee Ahmed and others.

147-01—Ardeshir H D and Co—Premchand Roychand and another vs Hajee Joosub Hajee Abd Satar—Thakurdas and Co.

152 01—Wadia and G—Bomanjee Eduljee Cassinath vs Nowrojee Nusserwanjee Thuthi.

155-01—Jamsetjee and R—Cassum Nur Mahomed and another vs Sulleman jee Moola Abdool Ali and another.

For investigation of pauperism.

6-01—In person—Bibanbibi widow and another vs Abdul Razak bin Hajee Mahomedally Kookooley and another.

14-01—In person—Vullubdas Mathuradas vs Muljee Pursh otum and others—Nanu and H.

54-00—In person—Manbai widow vs Heerbai widow—D D Romer.

11-01—In person—Luxumibai widow vs Vithabai widow and others—Chitnis M and M.

13-01—In person—Shaik Ahmed Walad Shaik Cassum Essal vs Shahaboodin Vallad Goolam Khazi and another—M H Khan

Short Cause.

133-01—Captain and V—Alexander Schnider vs Nusserwanji Byramjee Cola—Mathubhai J and M.

THERE was a fresh case of plague in Phagwara in the Kapurthala State on the 9th April, and ten deaths form former attacks. Three fresh villages in the Zafarwal tahsil of the Sialkot district were reported to be infected with plague on the 7th April. Only one village in the Raya tahsil of the same district is infected up to the present.

BEAUTY AND HYGIENE.

FOR health, beauty, and luxury, use the Albion Milk and Sulphur Soap, which, Lady Constance Howard writes, is "pleasant to use, and whitens and softens the Skin" Also Testimonials from Countess Bathurst, Lady White, Viscountess Exmouth, Lady Dorothy Nevill, and many others. Delicately perfumed. Warning. When buying the Albion Milk and Sulphur Soap, see that name and figure head of "Albion" are on the wrapper. Sold by all Chemists, Grocers, &c.

BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Sun rises, 5h. 42m. Sun sets, 6h. 17m. High water, 9-4m., 9-21a. Low water, 2-51m., 3-2a.
Second Criminal Sessions, 11 a.m.
Bombay Natural History Society, 5-30 p.m.
Royal Bombay Yacht Club, special general meeting, 6 p.m.
Novelty Theatre: "The Sign of the Cross."

POLO.—There will be a game at 5 o'clock to-day.

THEFT OF PRECIOUS STONES.—Motilal Magonlal, a shroff, who resides at Kalbadavi Road reported to the Police on Saturday last that about noon on the previous day a number of pearls, emeralds and two diamond rings of the collective value of Rs. 4,050, were stolen from the pocket of his "bundi" which he had left hanging on a nail in his room.

PROFESSOR JACKSON'S FOURTH LECTURE ON THE RELIGION OF THE PARSIS.—Professor Jackson will deliver his fourth lecture in the series arranged for by Mr. Karkaria on the religion, this afternoon, at the Framji Cowasji Hall, at 5-15 p. m. The subject is "The Ancient Persian Doctrine of a Future Life." The chair on the occasion will be taken by Mr. H. R. Cama.

POSTAL NOTICES.—Mails for Delagoa Bay, Natal and Cape Colony per extra s.s. 'Umkuzo" via Tuticorin and Colombo will be closed at the General Post Office on Friday and Saturday the 19th and 20th Instant, respectively. Mails for Singapore, China and Japan per extra s.s. "Bisagne" will be closed at the General Post Office at 1 p.m., on Wednesday the 17th instant.

BOMBAY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY;—A meeting of the members will be held this afternoon at the Society's Rooms at 6, Apollo street, at 5-30 p. m. when the following papers will be read:—(1) Bird-Nesting in the Neighbourhood of Poona, by Capt. R. N. Betham (2) Notes on the Narcondam Hornbill, by Rev. C. P. Cory, (3) Occurrence of the Laggar Falcon in Burma, by E. Comber, (4) Nesting difficulties of the Coppersmith, by E. Tooth, (5) Bulbuls, by E. H. Aitken.

REPORTED THEFT.—Sorabji D. Nadirshaw, a Parsee, who resides on the first storey of a house at Dhunji Street, Grant Road, has reported to the police the theft of a set of gold buttons and one diamond stud of the collective value of Rs. 250. It appears that complainant placed his "bundi" containing the property on a peg in his room on Friday evening last and retired to rest. The next morning he found the "bundi" with its contents missing. The matter is being investigated by the Police.

BHOWNAGAR NEWS.—Our Bhownagar correspondent, writes under date 14th instant :—A fire broke out at Bhownagar yesterday in Poonjia Amra Sheri. The fire was got under after damage to the extent of about Rs. 4,000 was done.—A fire also occurred at Janugad last week when two shops containing cloth were burnt down. The damage done by the fire is estimated at over Rs. 10,000. A ship struck on a rock near Goga yesterday and foundered. The ship had a cargo of iron valued at about Rs. 5,000.

THE BAND AT THE ROYAL BOMBAY YACHT CLUB.—The Band of the 21st Bombay Infantry will play the following programme of music, under the direction of Mr. F. Bradley, Bandmaster, commencing at 5-45 p. m.

March	Under the banner of Victory	Von Blon
Overture	The Caliph of Bagdad	Boieldieu
Selection	San Toy	Jones
Valse	Sourire D'Avril	Depret
Song	The Flight of Ages	Bevan
Polka	Mein Roschen	Anger

GOD SAVE THE KING.

THE BAI SAKARBAI DINSHAW PETIT HOSPITAL FOR ANIMALS.—On the 1st of March last there were 35 horses, 151 bullocks, at the Bai Sakarbai Dinshaw Petit Hospital for Animals at Parel. During the month of March 27 horses, 90 bullocks, 2 cows, 2 buffaloes, 1 shegoat and 1 dog were admitted, and during the same month 37 horses, 98 bullocks, 1 cow, 6 buffaloes, and 1 dog were discharged from the Hospital, 2 cases among horses, 3 cases among bullocks, 1 case among cows, 1 case among buffaloes, 1 case among shegoats, proved fatal during the past month. The following animals were treated as out patients during the month :—18 horses, 2 bullocks, 2 cows, 59 dogs, 2 cats, 1 moongoose, 1 goose, 1 canary and 5 parrots.

THE BOER PRISONERS.—A correspondent writing from Ahmednagar says :—The historical Fort of Nagar, usually a most peaceful spot, is now the scene of great activity, preparing for the arrival of 1,000 Boer prisoners, who are to be sent here on the 30th instant. Half a company of Bombay Sappers and Miners from Kirkee have arrived, and are rapidly putting up a high barbed-wire entanglement to enclose the corrugated iron-roofed huts, which are to be the homes of a fallen race during their stay here. The contractors have guaranteed to complete the work by the 5th May, and are working day and night. The Public Works Department men, on whose shoulders the brunt of the work falls, are sweating a worried look. Mr. Jesse Major Dickinson, of the Welsh Regiment, is to be Commandant, and the Welsh Regiment and four companies of the Shropshires from Poona will furnish the guards. There may be good reason for selecting the fort as a site, but we congratulate ourselves we have not to share the miseries of the Boers.—"Deccan Herald."

A LECTURE ON ZOROASTRIAN RELIGION.—At the Framji Cawasji Institute, yesterday evening, a large number of Parsee ladies and gentlemen assembled to hear a lecture by Professor Jackson of Columbia University, on "The moral and ethical teaching of Zoroaster." The Hon'ble Justice Dickinson presided. The lecturer said that the ancient Persians taught their boys first of all three things, namely, to ride on horse back, to draw the bow and to speak the truth. They always inculated upon the minds of their boys the great advantages of purity of body and soul, charity, generosity and benevolence. Even now the Parsees were well known for their benevolence. The Persians were moderate in most of their habits. Large families were admired among them, and prizes were given by the ancient Persian kings to those who could show a large number of boys. At the conclusion of the address, a hearty vote of thanks was proposed to the lecturer, and with the customary compliments to the chairman the proceedings terminated.

THE MAZAGON INSTITUTE.—On Sunday, the 14th instant, a meeting of the members of the Mazagon Institute, was held in the rooms of the Institute, about 50 members of the Goanese community being present. Canon D. A. Lobo presided. The meeting was convened for the purpose of unveiling first the photographs of the late Bishop of Damaun, D. Antonio Pedro da Costa, Patron of the Institute, and of the first secretary, Mr. C. C. Monteiro. Mr. Simoens called upon the Rev. President to deliver the first address. Canon Lobo spoke of the good qualities of the head and heart of the late Bishop and the many favors done and presents he made to the Institute. Mr. D. R. Simoens, the next speaker, spoke in glowing terms of the late Mr. C. C. Monteiro who, he said, was one of the founders of the Institute and the present flourishing condition of the Institute was due mainly to him. He then asked the Rev. President to unveil his photograph which he did. Mr. Isidore Mendonca then proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. Chairman who, ably presided and the proceedings then closed.

ACCUSED ACQUITTED.—Yesterday, at the Esplanade Police Court, before Mr. Karsandas Chhabildas, Third Presidency Magistrate, Tukaram Dhondu and eighteen other cart drivers were indicted for trespass on the 14th instant in the compound of the Colaba Land and Mills Co., at Colaba. Mr. Saher, Barrister-at-Law, appeared for all the accused. Evidence for the prosecution went to show that yesterday all the accused went into the compound of the Mills Co., and left their carts and bullocks there, and made themselves liable to be prosecuted for trespass. Mr. Saher explained that all the accused lived in the chawl, belonging to the Mills Company. Yesterday they went there for taking their food, and at the time they could not leave their carts elsewhere. They paid Rs. 150 as rent per month. The magistrate said that he did not see any reason why the prisoners were placed in the dock at all. They had got a very good excuse for being present in the compound of the Land Mills Co., for the simple reason that they were tenants living there. They were not men of questionable character, and they ought not to have been brought in court at all. All the accused were discharged.

AT a meeting of the French International Arbitration Society at Paris Mr. Thomas Barclay, formerly president of the British Chamber of Commerce there, dwelt on many affinities in interests, taste, and sentiment existing between the French and English. He thought there was nothing to prevent the two Great Powers settling all disputes by peaceful methods.

SPEAKING in Manchester, the Rev. Canon Knox-Little said he had learned in South Africa one thing to love—Tommy Atkins. He had seen him under fire, in the hospital, in the tent, and when dying, and whatever his faults he was a fine fellow with a heart in its right place, a stern sense of duty, tremendous courage, and astounding discipline. Some might run Tommy Atkins down and abuse him to the credit of the Boers, but he had found him kind to those who opposed him, ready to give his last bit of tobacco and his last drop of water to an enemy in distress, against whom he had not one touch of vindictiveness He was not a "tin soldier taking care of grandma," as he had sometimes been called.

HIGH COURT.—APPELLATE SIDE.

(Before the Hon. Mr. JUSTICE CANDY and the HON. MR. JUSTICE CHANDAVARKER.)

MURDER OF A WIFE AND HER PARAMOUR.

IMPERATOR VS. FAKIRA BIN KARIAPPA AND FOUR OTHERS.

THESE were appeals from a decision of Mr. A. S. A Westropp, Additional Sessions Judge of Bijapur, who, in February last, convicted the accused of two murders and sentenced four of then each to transportation for life, and No. 4, Mudya Balappa, to death. Mr. Branson, with Mr. N. V. Gokhale, appeared for the accused; and the Government Pleader for the Crown.

The five accused and one Karya, who was acquitted and discharged, were charged with causing the death of Lalbi Kom Fakira, at Lakaskop, on the 18th October last. They were also charged with causing the death of Nagappa bin Balappa at the same place on the same date. The deceased Lalbi was the wife of Fakira, No. 4; and the deceased Nagappa was his next door neighbour, No. 1 pleaded guilty of the culpable homicide of these two persons, stating before the Sessions Court that, seeing them together in criminal intimacy, he impulsively, having an axe and a sickle in his hand, killed them both on the spot on which they lay together. For the prosecution it was alleged that the double murder was the result of a carefully premeditated plot, its object being vengeance for provocation long previously given; that the two persons were murdered at one time to give the crime the appearance of being the result of sudden impulse due to such provocation as would palliate the offence, and that the crimes were not committed by Fakira alone, but by the the six accused jointly. That the deaths were due to wilful killing, said Mr. Westropp, was thus an admitted fact, which, moreover, the terrible wounds on the corpses, amply demonstrated. It had thus to be seen whether the prosecution version was substantiated by the facts and evidence before the court, or whither Fakira's statement was to be held as correct, and his plea accepted. Accused Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 6 were brothers. The enmity between the parties went back two years from the date of the offence, at which time Lalbi was driven out of her husband's house. After going through the evidence at considerable length, the Sessions Judge thought that accused No. 4 Mudya appeared to be the "fons et origo" of the conspiracy to kill the two deceased. Mudya No. 4 was, therefore, on conviction, sentenced to death, while the other four accused were sentenced each to transportation for life, the accused Karya being acquitted and discharged.

Mr. Justice Candy and Mr. Justice Chandawarker delivered separate judgments in the case. For reasons stated in the judgments, their lordships confirmed the convictions of and sentences passed on accused Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 6 and dismissed their appeals. The sentence on Mudya, No. 4, was reduced to transportation for life.

RESTITUTION OF CONJUGAL RIGHTS.

BAI HIRABAI *vs* DHUNJEEBHOY BOMONJEE MISTREE.

YESTERDAY, at the High Court, a Full Bench, consisting of the Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Candy, Mr. Justice Crowe, and Mr. Justice Chandawarkar, delivered judgment on a question of law referred to them in the matrimonial case of Bai Hirabai vs. Dhunjebhoy Bomonjee Mistree, her husband. The Hon. Mr. Scott, Mr. Inverarity, and Mr. Lowndes, with Messrs. Jhangir and Servai, appeared for the appellant Dhunjeebhoy; and Mr. Robertson, instructed by Messrs. Sorabjee and Jehangir, appeared for Bai Hirabai, the original plantiff and respondent.

The suit was originally heard before Mr. Justice Fulton, the plaintiff suing her husband for restitution of conjugal rights, and it was decided in the plaintiff's favour, her claim being awarded with costs. From that decision, the defendant appealed; and the Appeal Court, consisting of the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Chandawarker; before giving their decision, made a reference to a Full Bench on the following question :—Whether article 35 of the Indian Limitation Act applies to a suit under the Parsee Divorce Act?

The Chief Justice, in giving the judgment of the Full Bench, said the question referred for their opinion was, whether having regard to section 2 3 of the Indian Limitation Act 1877 and article 35 in the second schedule to that Act, a suit under the Parsee Marriage and Divorce Act, Act 15 of 1865, by a wife for the restitution of her conjugal rights, is barred by lapse of time when restitution has been demanded by her, and refused by the husband, being of full mind, more than two years prior to the commencement of the suit? After referring to several authorities and provisons of law, the Chief Justice said it had been suggested that the words of the section would be satisfied by holding that no suit could be brought except within two years after such demand and refusal. It seemed to his lordship, however, that a Limitation Act is hardly the place for such a provision, for that would be not so much a law of limitation as a rule requiring a demand and refusal within a reasonable time; and it further involved the hypothesis, controverted in Binda's case, that a demand and refusal were still unnecessary. The result then was that his lordship would answer the question referred to them in the affirmative.

THE CITY MORTALITY.

THE Municipal Office returns for the twenty-four hours ending at 6 a.m., yesterday, give the following results :—

Wards.	Plague. Attacks.	Deaths.	Deaths from all Causes.
A Upper Middle and Lower Colaba, Fort Northern, Fort Southern and Esplanade	5	3	10
B Mandvi, Chukla, Umarkhadi and Dongri	9	9	39
C Market, Dhobi Talao, Panaswadi, Bhuleshwar Khara Talao and Kumbharwada	21	8	39
D Khetwadi, Girgaum, Chowpatty, Walkeshwar and Mahaluxmi	8	14	26
E Mazagon, Tarwadi, 2nd Nagpada, Kamatipura, Tardeo, Byculla and 1st Nagpada	0	23	63
F Parel, Sewree and Sion	11	16	28
G Mahim and Worlee	17	13	22
Water Division	0	0	0
Non-residents and unknown	0	0	0
Hospital	0	7	16
Total	71	93	243
Total plague deaths to date	93,510	78,138	
Same date last year	130	93	300

BANDORA.

There were 5 attacks and 3 deaths recorded from plague within the limits of the Bandora Municipality on Sunday.

EDUCATION OF INDIAN CATHOLICS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR.—As to how Higher Education might be promoted among the East Indian Catholics of Bombay, Bassein and Salsette, various proposals have been suggested, one of which is the raising of the efficiency of St. John's School at Dadur. It might be remarked that some changes have been made in the teaching staff of that school. A graduate both in Arts and in Law succeeds Mr. Esperance, B. A., and more graduates have been employed. To promote the object of education, I would suggest to the Committee of the Dadur School the purchase of useful and entertaining books for the perusal of the students.—Yours &c,

PROGRESS.

HISTORY AS SHE IS MADE.

WHEN the historian of the future, writes Mr. Bayfield to the "Express" comes to deal with the visit to the Colonies of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York, he will encounter some little difficulties—that is, if he refers for information, as possibly he may, to the high-class, superbly-printed, fortunate making, sixpenny illustrated newspapers, instead of to the cheap Press of the time.

For the last issues of these high-class weeklies exhibit some striking differences in the depiction of the scene in which the Duke and Duchess wave adieu to their friends from the bridge of the Ophir. While the "Graphic" represents the Duke with the left breast of his naval "frock-coat" covered with orders and decorations, "Black and White" shows him more simply attired in an undress uniform, with no orders whatever, and plus a collar and a tie. I can imagine that collar and tie forming, fifty years hence, a pivot on which volumes of argument will revolve. The marked difference of the Duchess' dress too, will, in ladies' journals of the future, provoke as fierce and profitable a discussion as the Shakespeare-Bacon controversy.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ORDERS.

(*Gazette of India*, April 13.)

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

Mr W T Gellibrand, Barrister-at-Law, is appointed to officiate as Personal Assistant Secy to the Govt of India in the Legislative Dept, during the absence, on privilege leave, of Mr J G Morison, Barrister-at-Law, or until further orders.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

A vacancy having occurred in the office of an Ordinary Member of the Council of the Govr Genl of India by the resignation of the Hon Major-Genl Sir Edwin Henry Hayter Collen, G C I E, C B. His Majesty the King, Emperor of India, has been graciously pleased to appoint Major Genl Sir Edmond Roche Elles, K C B, to be an Ordinary Member of the Council of the Govr Genl of India.

The services of Mr R A E Castle, Dist Supt of Police, Burma, are placed at the disposal of the Dept of Revenue and Agriculture.

The services of Mr J B Brunyate, I C S, are replaced at the disposal of the Govt of the N W Provinces and Oudh.

The services of Mr M E Couchman, of the Indian Civil Service, Madras Estab, are replaced at the disposal of the Govt of Madras, with effect from the date on which he made over charge of the office of First Asst Commissioner and Dist Magistrate of Coorg.

Mr P A Booty, of the Indian Civil Service, Madras Estabt, is appointed to be First Asst Commissioner and Dist Magistrate of Coorg, with effect from the date on which he received charge of the duties of the appointment.

Lieut Col R D Murray, M B, I M S Bengal, Professor of Surgery in the Medical College, Calcutta, and ex-officio Surgeon to the College Hospital, is granted privilege leave for three months' combined with five months' furlough out of India on medical certificate.

Col B Franklin, C I E, I M S Bengal, Inspr Genl of Civil Hospitals, Punjab, is granted privilege leave for five weeks with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

The services of Capt E R R Swiney, 9th Gurkha Rifles, are replaced at the disposal of his Imp Comdr-in-Chief.

The services of Capt V A Ormsby, 1st Battalion, 3rd Gurkha Rifles, are placed temporarily at the disposal of the Govt. of the N W Provinces and Oudh for employment on plague duty.

The services of Col A M Branfoot, M B C I E I M S Madras, are placed temporarily at the disposal of the Govt of Madras.

Mr F Peacock, Barrister-at-Law, is appointed to act as Official Trustee of Bengal in addition to his other duties, during the absence on leave of Mr A B Miller, or until further orders.

The services of Captain R F C Gordon, 15th Bengal Lancers, are placed temporarily at the disposal of the Govt of Burma for employment as offg Depy Inspr Genl of Military Police.

The services of the Rev C R T Winckley, Chaplain of Shillong, are placed at the disposal of the Govt of Bengal.

The services of the Rev H G S Anstey, Chaplain of Saugor, Central Provinces, are placed at the disposal of the Govt of Bengal.

The Rev H O Moore, Domestic Chaplain to the Most Rev the Lord Bishop of Calcutta, is granted privilege leave for three months.

The services of the Rev T E F Cole, Chaplain of Nagpur, Central Provinces, are placed at the disposal of the Govt of Bengal.

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE.

Mr H Hayden, Asst Supt, Geological Survey of India, is appointed Curator of the Geological Museum, in place of Mr T H Holland.

Mr G A Stonier, Mining Specialist in the Geological Survey Dept, is appointed to officiate as Inspr of Mines in India, vice Mr James Grundy, on furlough.

The Govr Genl in Council is pleased to appoint, as a temporary arrangement, Mr G A Stonier, officiating Inspr of Mines in India, to discharge the duties of the Chief Inspr of Mines.

The Services of Major H Coape Smith, 11th (Prince of Wales's Own, Regt of Bengal Lancers, which were placed at the disposal of the Hon the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces for employment on famine duty, are replaced at the disposal of H E the Comdr-in-Chief in India.

The services of Mr R A E Castle, Dist Supt of Police, Burma, are placed at the disposal of the Govt of Bombay for employment on famine duty.

Mr S Eardley-Wilmot, Conservator, 1st grade, in charge

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THE WEATHER.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]

SIMLA, APRIL 15.

SUNDAY.—The Barometer has risen slightly to briskly in Baluchistan and Sind and has fallen elsewhere, the fall being slight to brisk in North, Western and Central Provinces, Central India and Bengal. The depression in North West India has advanced eastwards and has coalesced with depression lying above Central and Eastern Himalayas, which has again intensified. Pressure is in considerable to large defect in the depression area. Light to moderately heavy rain has fallen in the upper India hills and Punjab, and thunderstorms in east Bengal and Assam. Silchar has received four and half inches; Murree and Peshawar two and half inches; Rawalpindi, Srinagar, Mymensingh, one inch. The temperature is in large to very large defect in Central Panjab, Assam, and upper Burma, and in considerable to very large excess in Rajputana, lower Sind, Central Provinces and North of Bombay Deccan.

OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT 8 A.M., ON MONDAY, THE 15TH OF APRIL.

SUMMARY.

There has been a brisk rise of pressure in Rajputana, the Punjab and at Cawnpore, Agra and Jhansi, and slight changes elsewhere. Readings are lowest at and in the neighbourhood of Allahabad and highest in the south. Gradients are moderate to slight.

Winds are south-westerly to north-westerly at several of the reporting stations and the force has been fresh to light.

The maximum temperature is from 5° to 11° in excess of normal in Berar and at Saugar, Jabbulpore, Bhavnagar, Khandwa, Secunderabad, Indore, Ahmedabad, Surat and Kaiachi, and the minimum from 5° to 9° at Agra, Saugor, Sholapur, Jeypore, Cawnpore, Khandwa, Hoshangabad, Jhansi, Raipur, Amraoti, Karwar, Akola and Indore. The highest temperature in the shade was 111° at Akola and the lowest 61° at Jacobabad.

Humidity changes are very irregular and the skies are more or less cloudy in several places, but show a tendency to clear.

A few drops of rain have fallen at Cochin and Colombo.

A depression is shown by the isobars to exist near Allahabad and the weather in the Central and the North-Western Provinces will become cloudy, and more or less unsettled.

E. A. KENYON,
Meteorological Reporter for Western India.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

GOVERNMENT OBSERVATORY, COLABA.

Bombay, 14th April, 1901.

Means of observations taken at 6 a.m., 10 a.m., 2 p.m. 4 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Barometer corrected 32 dex. Fah ..... inches	29·717
Temperature of the Air ..... degrees	85·3
Wet Bulb Thermometer	72·0
Dew Point	75·3
Relative humidity of Air	0·724
Extent of cloudy sky (the whole sky clouded = 10) ..	0·2
Maximum temperature of air (read at 8 a.m.) next day ..... degrees	91·3
Minimum do. do. (read at 8 a.m.)	79·2
General Directions of wind*	NW, NNW, NW, NNW.
Movement of Wind in 24 hours* ..... miles	286

* From midnight to midnight.

N. A. F. MOOS,
Director, Government Observatory.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER RIFLES.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY LIEUT-COLONEL E. FERRERS NICHOLSON, COMMANDING B. V. R.

Bombay, 16th April.

1. The Annual Regimental Prize Distribution will take place at the Town Hall at 9 p. m. on Friday next, the 19th Instant.

Officers Commanding Companies are requested to make their own arrangements for their Prize-list and Prizes.

The Bombay Volunteer Rifles Rifle Association Prizes will be distributed at the same time.

Dress for Officers.—Mess Dress Red or White.

For N. C. Officers and Volunteers.—Mess Dress or Uniform with Forage Caps.

2. Members who have not already returned their Arms and Equipment to Head-quarters, are requested to do so as early as possible.

By Order,
P. H. ROGERS, Captain,
Adjutant B. V. R.

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DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTH.

MARDEN—April 10, at Mysore Reefs Camp, Kolar Gold Fields, the wife of Owen W Marden, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

MACDONALD—SINCLAIR—April 10, at St Stephen's Church Ootacamund, by the Rev A H Lash, C M S, the Rev J I MacDonald, C M S, third son of Mr J MacDonald, of Brighton, to Jessie Violet Ellen, third daughter of the late Mr Henry George Sinclair, and Mrs Sinclair, of Lansdowne, Ootacamund.

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NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*** All communications intended for publication in our columns should be addressed to THE EDITOR, and not to any individual member of the staff.

The Bombay Gazette

TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 1901.

A NEW WRITER ON THE WAR.

An anonymous writer in "Blackwood" takes us again through the "Dies iraæ" of fifteen months ago, when Sir George White lay inside Ladysmith and Sir Redvers Buller was performing his marches and countermarches across the Tugela river. The writer, who signs himself "Linesman," claims to have been in one of the battalions which carried Spion Kop and he wields a facile pen. But it would have been better for him and for his cause if magazine editors wielded the blue pencil as remorselessly as their brethren of the daily press. For every now and again his pen runs away with him, and in days to come he will reproach himself for not having eliminated the little excrescences which here and there show themselves to the detriment of the entire article. For the sake of a polished period and rounded sentence he has been willing to sacrifice a good deal. One has learnt this much in South Africa, he writes in one place, "to describe—nay, believe—nothing that one has not seen with one's own eyes. War correspondents with one voice have proclaimed that no war has ever been worse conducted than this one; it is a fair retort that no war has ever been worse reported—" a "tu quoque" at the best. If the tongue is an unruly member, much more is the ear which drinks in the gossip of inventive non-commissioned officers and camp-followers and the hand which welds the farrago into enormous volumes of misinformation and unfairness, the only truthful representation found from cover to cover being the photograph of the author opposite the title-page. This is very scathing, no doubt, but it is also very extravagant language which no one desirous of being taken seriously should have condescended to make use of. What "Linesman" saw of the fight on the summit of Spion Kop "was little enough; but it was enough—enough at any rate to have rendered the subsequent recrimination and insinuation dreadful to the mind of a mere soldier in its unfairness and duplicity." He can say this, while admitting that it is not wise to describe or believe anything one has not seen with one's own eyes. To crown his inconsistency he declared that the whole British Army, as well as the fraction of it which left Spion Kop the night of its evacuation, owes it to Colonel Thorneycroft that the catastrophe, characteristically described by him as the "mop-up in the morning" is only a "might have been" in our military history.

The capture and surrender of Spion Kop, "Linesman" thinks, must stand for ever as that which in a commander is worse than a crime—a blunder. The Army knows well enough who was to blame for that; but it is as well that the rest of the world should remain in ignorance, even if it should mean the prolongation of the pitiable discussion as to the burden of the responsibility, for such a tragedy is too heavy for one man to bear in public. "Linesman's" article, inconsistent though it may be, and though dogmatic its style, is well worthy the place of honour in a magazine. But might we not have had it offered to us as picturesque war correspondence—savouring strongly of Mr. Archibald Forbes at that? He is a vivid descriptive writer and he would have gained more kudos for work of that character than by essaying to deliver final judgment in the matter of Spion Kop, of which he admits he saw but little and only knew of the retirement the morning after it had been effected. How the war was reported Mr. Bennett Burleigh has told us. That is, he has told us how it happened that it was not reported—no fault of the correspondents but rather of the Press Censor. "Linesman's" remarks, therefore, as to enormous volumes of misinformation and unfairness, may be dismissed as impertinent. But let us give credit where it is due. In reality, he tells us, every man in the fighting-line is a moral sympiesometer in himself if he only knew it. What he feels when the first shell bursts at dawn, the whole army is feeling; the same at high noon, with its roar of battle and its heat; the same when the firing dies with the dying light in the evening and friend and foe sink down where they have crouched all day too weary even to hate any more. All this sounds very unlikely and grotesque, he confesses, but he assures the unbattled reader that it is true. The emotions that speed along a fighting-line come sometimes almost as a shock to oneself, they are so resistless, often so inexplicable and unconnected with the actual events in progress. "But they come to all the same and come to all at once, and a moment of joy, a wink of gloom, to one, is joy or gloom to all"—another piece of sonorous composition, in which, however, the necessity for describing only what oneself sees and experiences is again unfortunately forgotten.

"Linesman" paints a thrilling picture of Hart's attack. The Lancashire and Irish brigades rushed the two right gorges with a dash that was positively startling in its unexpectedness. The artillery preparation was a mere form. There was a hasty bang, bang, bang from the artillery position on Three-Tree hill, a terrified crackle of musketry from the occupants of the re-entrant and up from the shadows burst the Irish and North-countrymen with a typhoon of yells and a momentum that nothing but death could stop. But death was there: a tremendous fire broke out from the ridge behind, as the cheering soldiers flowed over the level above the re-entrants. The foremost men fell in heaps, the rearmost were stopped, as all should have been stopped at the crestline. "Thus far and no farther" sang the Mausers. Further back still bellowed the French guns as they tried to whisk off their precarious crestline with well-aimed shrapnel. And so he carries the reader with him and shows him the scene at night where the only sleepers were the British dead, which lay like seaweed marking the higher tide line of Hart's onset, and the poor charred corpses of the Boers lying hideously on the burnt black grass. No, we cannot commend either as a reporter or a military authority. If the country were apathetic and wanted rousing, if youngsters would not join the Yeomanry and Volunteers, if a last appeal to dormant militant instincts were desired, "Linesman's" pen would be invaluable. He wakens the slumbering savage in man and causes him to reach round for his sword and to cry "forward." He is too flamboyant for a war correspondent, too illogical for a judge.

THE NOBLE ART. The Americans have taught our jockeys something new in horse racing and of late years American boxers have shown English pugilists that they had something to learn in the "noble art" of self defence. Captain W. Edgeworth-Johnstone, in his recently published book on "Boxing", points out that the American boxer is superior to the English because he is "all variety" and is almost invariably a two-handed fighter. Our English boxers, with few exceptions, are one-handed fighters, following the old idea of "hitting with the left and guarding with the right." Captain Edgeworth-Johnstone, who is Assistant Inspector of Gymnasia and won the heavy weight Amateur Boxing Championship of England in 1895 and 1896, says he has always been puzzled to see why English boxers should insist on keeping the right hand so rigorously in reserve. His book is intended to show the right lines on which boxing should be taught and studied. He believes in hard hitting; in the cultivation of the art of self defence, rather than in mere "sparring" such as is taught by the majority of boxing professors. He thus summarizes his contentions: In boxing the first and the most important thing for a beginner to learn is to hit hard, to hit accurately and to hit quickly, so that should he at any time be obliged to defend himself against an unskilled opponent he can, upon a favourable opportunity presenting itself, either knock him out off hand, or so daze him, that a repetition of the blow will close the affair. The book describes the various "leads" and "counters" to be mastered by the pugilist, and in a special chapter dealing with the "knock out" blow, which was unknown to the old heroes of the ring, it is pointed out that it is a mistake to suppose that the successful boxer needs the biceps of a Sandow. In the old days when wrestling formed an important part of a prize fight abnormally developed flexor muscles were necessary. But for quick hard hitting unusual development of the biceps is, says the author, a decided disadvantage, as it produces the condition known as muscle bound which interferes with a rapid straightening of the arm. Many men and most boys gauge muscular strength by the size of the biceps, but "the muscular development of the arms, has very little to do with severe hitting." So that nobody need despair of attaining the power to give a "decent punch." For instance, the true "knock out" blow depends for its effectiveness not upon mere muscular strength but on the application of anatomical knowledge to fisticuffs. The blow must be delivered "with lightninglike rapidity and perfect accuracy on the side, but as near the point of the chin as possible, so as to take full advantage of the leverage of the jaw." For its force the blow chiefly depends upon a swing of the body from the hips, and apart from the movement of the striker, its effectiveness is aided by the action of the opponent. This blow, says the author, is most commonly brought off, on the opponent's left-hand "lead" at the face, by means of a right-hand "cross counter," the left side of the chin being found, whilst the muscles of the neck and head are in a state of tension from the effort of the leading. This is where the study of anatomy serves the purpose of the pugilist. For the consequence of the "cross counter" so delivered is that the opponent's neck "experiences a sharp twist which probably jars the 'medulla oblongata' and temporarily compresses the vertebral arteries at the base of the skull, thus checking for an instant the supply of blood to the brain; as a result, the man struck falls down in a dazed condition and is unable to rise within the mercifully short regulation period of ten seconds." There is another and more dangerous form of the "knock out" blow which is aimed at the region over the heart, but the one described is perhaps to be preferred. It is clear, scientific and effective and disposes of the enemy without any gory effusion. No embryo pugilist should be without this very useful book of Capt. Edgeworth Johnstone's which is full of instruction and contains numerous plates. For its moral we must go to that America, which, according to its author, has shown us the up-to-date science of boxing and which has aptly expressed it in the couplet:—"Thrice is he armed who hath his quarrel just, but four times he who gets his blow in fust."

MR. MARTINUS THEUNIS STEYN. It is rumoured that Mr. Steyn, ex-president of the Orange Free State, has advised the Burghers to resign. An ounce of fact is worth tons of rumour. But Reuter has wired it and we give the statement for what it is worth. Mr. Steyn advised them to fight and doubtless wishes he had not. His was the idea of a Boer republic which was to reach from Capetown to the Zambesi. Heaven only knows how he imagined such a scheme was to be launched into being. Mr. Steyn was never anti-English. He finished his education in England and is a member of the British Bar having been called at the Inner Temple. No one knew better than he how futile would be resistance to British arms, yet when approached on the subject his reply was that the Orange River would throw in her lot with the Transvaal. His decision was in direct antagonism to his own feelings, for when a candidate for the presidentship his address indicated his desire to live at peace with his neighbours and his deprecation of anything that would lead to race-hatred. "Shall we," he asked, "like sensible men, allow a wretched free-booter (referring to Dr. Jameson) to put race-hatred in our hearts, or shall we allow him to take us a hair-breadth out of the path our fathers have pointed out to us, which leads to peace, friendship and fraternity? For the sake of their memory we shall again pursue that path and say to the stranger, 'Come and join us; but do not stand aside and expect that we will abandon our nationality and allow you to absorb us.' In this way alone can we expect blessing and progress." Mr. Steyn committed the mistake of his life when he turned his back on that way. All is lost in the way of independence to him and his countrymen. He cannot save that, but by prompt surrender he may save his skin. And for his countrymen he may gain a subservience to British Government which will procure for them a greater measure of freedom and prosperity than ever they enjoyed under their own republic.

INDIAN CRICKETERS IN ENGLAND. The Home cricket season will have more than an ordinary interest for Indian lovers of the game by reason of the number of players participating who are known in Indian cricket circles: Apart from K. S. Ranjitsinghji, the doings of Mr. J. G. Greig, E. H. D. Sewell, and Ahsan-ul-Huk will be followed with the keenest interest. Mr. J. G. Greig, who is home on leave, will play for Hampshire, a county with which he was identified before he came out to India but which had not at the time been raised to the front rank of counties. Mr. Greig is undoubtedly one of the finest all round cricketers we have ever had in Bombay, and his many admirers may confidently look forward to his rendering a good account of himself in first-class cricket. E. H. D. Sewell, who is qualifying for Essex, is the well known Madras player who a few years ago established a record in Indian cricket by scoring fourteen centuries in a season, and capturing over a hundred wickets. This is a style that will commend itself to home lovers of the game, and as a batsman he is sure to vie with Gilbert Jessop, F. G. J. Ford and other hitters in feats of rapid run-getting. Ahsan-ul-Huk is the very promising player who did so well for Hampstead C. C. last season as a batsman, scoring over 1,000 runs, and is almost certain to be given a trial in the Middlesex team this year. Messrs Stoddart, Macgregor and Hayman who all play for Hampstead are hardly likely to overlook the form he showed last season.

PLAGUE VACCINE. ALTHOUGH Dr. Haffkine's plague vaccine is manufactured in Bombay it is used less in this City in proportion to population than in any other populous centre in India. About 6,300 persons have been inoculated during the past nine months, and this notwithstanding that people have been dying in hundreds daily for many weeks. It is encouraging, however, to find there are people in other parts of India who are anxious to accept the immunity which inoculation affords, and from careful tests it has been found that the operation gives from 60 to 70 per cent. greater chance of escaping this terrible disease. For some months plague has raged with virulence over Northern India, and its victims can only be numbered in thousands. In the Punjab inoculation is being freely resorted to, and during January, February and March 186,000 doses have been despatched there from Parel Laboratory. The disease has spread to Behar, where it now prevails in epidemic form, and over 5,000 doses were sent thither last week. There were also 4,000 injections sent to Marwara, and 1,000 to Karachi, where inoculation against plague is beginning to be practised on the people.

THE P. and O. S. N. Company's s.s. Peninsular with the outward mails of the 5th instant, left Aden, at 9 a.m., yesterday, and is expected to arrive in Bombay at daylight on Saturday.

The Walker Hospital, Simla, will be completed in November, ready for opening next spring.

CAPTAIN HOLMAN, 16th Bengal Lancers, shortly officiates as Assistant Secretary, Military Department.

THE Public Works Department are about to despatch 200,000 dogspikes and 70,000 fishbolts for railways in China.

MR. H. Z. DARRAH takes over the Commissionership of Allahabad from Mr. E. B. Alexander this week when the latter goes home on furlough.

THERE are still 291,000 persons on relief showing an increase of 23,000 during the past week. Of this increase Bombay claims 13,600 and Hyderabad 6,600.

THE goods traffic on the B. B. & C. I Railway, for the week ending 23rd March 1901, shows a decrease on the corresponding week of 1901 of 237,294 maunds and Rs. 32,135 in the earnings.

VETERINARY-COLONEL QUERIPEL, Inspector-General of the Civil Veterinary Department, will vacate his appointment next month, Veterinary Major Morgan, Suprintendent Civil Veterinary Department, Bombay, succeeding him.

THE statement of traffic of the Ahmedabad Prantej Railway for the week ending 23rd February amounts to Rs. 4,575, a decrease on the corresponding week of last year of Rs. 2,541; the total earnings from 1st January to 23rd February shows Rs. 31,378, a decrease on the corresponding period of last year of Rs. 12,383.

THE statement of traffic of the Tapti Valley Railway for the week ending 23rd February amounts to Rs. 12,307, a decrease on the corresponding week of last year of Rs. 4,030; total earnings from 1st January to 23rd February shows Rs. 1,03,842, a decrease on the corresponding period of last year of Rs. 7,293.

MR. ARTHUR C. EVANS, C.E., Executive Engineer, Meerut Division, Ganges Canal, has been placed on special duty in the N.-W.-P. and Oudh in connection with the enquiry into the irrigation problem in scarcity tracts recently ordered by the Government of India. Mr. Evans will report to the local Government all feasible projects for the extension of irrigation, whether by canals, lakes, tanks or wells, and will collect and supply all available information regarding them.

THE total bag of the Viceroy's shooting party up to Sunday was ten tigers, apart from other game. Saturday having been a blank day so far as big game was concerned. On Saturday, however, news of rhino and buffallo came into the camp from a place about sixteen miles off, and Lord Curzon with Colonels Pears, Baring and Fenn decided to visit the spot. They will return to camp on Wednesday, and this will involve a slight change in His Excellency's subsequent tour. The Viceroy will now arrive at Moghalsarai on Friday instead of Thursday, and will reach Naini Tal on the 20th instead of the 19th, so that only one day instead of two will be spent there.

OFFICERS AND UNIFORM.

SHOULD THEY ALWAYS WEAR IT?

SOME HIGH PRICES.

(BY HORACE WYNDHAM).

The air just now is heavy with discussion on the subject of the wearing of uniform by military officers. Reduced to its simplest form, says Mr. Horace Wyndham, writing in the "Daily News," the question at issue is whether the commissioned ranks of the Army are to array themselves in professional garb on all occasions, or are only to do so when engaged in instructing their subordinates in the mysteries of the "goose-step" and other martial evolutions? As need scarcely be insisted upon, this latter practice is the general rule. Indeed, so prevalent is the custom nowadays among officers of adopting mufti that "regimentals" appear to have been banished entirely to the comparative seclusion of the barrack square and the parade-ground.

It is this custom that the civilian mind condemns. The gold-laced glory of the military uniform impresses it favourably, and it craves accordingly for more extended opportunities of making its acquaintance. Some of its more ardent admirers, indeed, are already talking of invoking legislation on the subject, and suburban debating societies have before now seriously discussed the feasibility of introducing a short Act which shall make it a court-martial offence for an officer to go to a tennis party in any attire other than that of full war paint.

The reason for the apparent antipathy evinced by the comissioned ranks to the custom of wearing uniform both on and off duty alike is a well-founded one. Army officers, taken as a class, are—save in the pages of our lady "military" novelists—poor men. They are unable, consequently, to spend large sums on their wardrobes at frequent intervals. Now, uniforms of all descriptions are extremely expensive, and, moreover, wear out so easily that they have to be continually renewed, unless the greatest possible care is taken of them. With civilian garments the case is different; these are cheaper to buy, and last longer. They are also a great deal more confortable to wear, and possess the further advantage of sparing a modestly-inclined man much of the attention that he would undoubtedly attract were he to take his walks abroad resplendent in the scarlet and gold of military full dress.

Where they themselves consulted in the matter, there is no doubt but that our army officers would infinitely prefer a plainly-designed—and consequently inexpensively purchased—uniform to the costly military magnificence which the clothing regulations at present in force insist upon their providing themselves with. It it a little difficult, for example, to conceive that an impecunious subaltern can derive the slightest gratification worthy of the name in being compelled to spend £7 on his tunic, when his professional income is the severely limited one of 5s. 3d. per diem. Again, the ten guinea feather bonnet of a kilted Highlander is apt to make its gallant wearer feel a little top-heavy, in comparison with the scanty amount of pay on which he has to support its dignity. Unfortunately for the pockets of those most concerned, Pall Mall resolutely declines to admit anything of the sort. This fact, however, is not appreciated by the general public, which, in its innocence, fondly imagines that the be frogged and be-laced attire of military officers is a source of peculiar pleasure to them. Indeed, the lay mind has been known to refer to its wearers in such uncomplimentary terms as "pack of gilded popinjays." It is in the hope of removing this unjust impression that the following information respecting the cost of the principal articles of an officer's uniform is offered.

The most expensively clothed branch of the Army is the Royal Horse Artillery. In this Arm a colonel's dress-jacket is not made for less than £27, while the lowest cost of a subaltern's is £23 13s. 6d. Gold laced "overalls" for officers of all ranks represent £4 4s. per pair, and no military outfitter has yet been found who will sell a sable busby and accessories under £15 15s. Other costly items with which the commissioned ranks of the R. H. A. have to provide themselves are a full dress set of belts and slings (£15), cloak and cape (£6), and pantaloons (£3). Altogether, an officer's uniform bill in the Royal Horse amounts—on the lowest basis—to something like £130. Added to this, he has to expend a considerable sum on saddlery.

Very high prices, too, rule in Highland regiments. A colonel's doublet, for example, costs from £12 15s., his mess-jacket about £7, and his "trews" £4 15s. a pair. The pecuniary value of his feather bonnet is at least ten guineas, while his sash is priced by the tailors at £3 19s. 6d., his claymore at £4 13s., and his shoulder plaid at £2 17s. 6d. For his kilt the sum usually charged is £5. Roughly speaking, an officer has to disburse at least £100 on his wardrobe on appointment to a Scottish corps.

The fine feathers of the Royal Engineers run away with a good deal of money. Thus, a tunic, "lined silk, wire lace and cords, orris tracing," costs £12 18s. (in the case of a colonel) and £9 4s. (in that of a second-lieutenant, this officer's allowance of gold lace being somewhat curtailed). A colonel's frock-coat in this corps is to be obtained for anything from £10 upwards, while his dress-overalls will cost him £3 14s. if he buy them at the stores, and a good deal more if he patronise the establishments of the more widely recognised outfitters. Then, the cocked hat of a field-officer of "Sappers" is priced at two-and-a-half guineas, while the less ornate helmet of a captain or subaltern will represent a cash value of at least a couple of pounds. A mess-jacket and a vest in this branch of the Service costs about nine guineas.

Although their professional duties make the wielding of the lancet and the compounding of pills more in their line than the drill-ground manœuvring of the other arms, military doctors have to provide themselves with a most elaborate uniform. This, which consists of tunic, mess-dress, patrol-jacket, gold-laced trousers, sword and belt, etc., is of a by no means inexpensive description. The principal items therein cost from £65, in the case a surgeon-lieutenant, to £95 in the case of a surgeon-major-general. The higher charge for the latter individual's outfit is chiefly accounted for by the fact that he is required to wear a much braided frock coat that is denied to his medical subordinates. As the garment in question costs some £12, it is doubtful if he always feels that his increased dignity has not been purchased at too high a price.

In the infantry of the line the military tailors are a trifle more moderate in their demands, and a subaltern in the majority of regiments can obtain his necessary uniform for about £60 (stores prices). Should he, however, elect to purchase his kit from a credit firm he will pay an extra 15 per cent. or so for the accommodation. A large proportion of officers, it may be mentioned in passing, do follow this course, trusting to luck—in the shape of staff appointments or the making of wills in their favour by maiden aunts—for the means with which to eventually settle the bills of Messrs. Soip and Co.

The following are the chief articles in a line officer's kit: Tunic (from £6 14s. 6d.), mess-jacket (from £3 15s.), gold-laced trousers (£3 10s.), great-coat and cape (£6), dress-sash (£3 10s. 6d.), crimson silk sash (£1 15s.), serge frock (£2 10s.), undress trousers (£1 16s.), and sword (£3 7s. 6d.). In Fusilier regiments a cost of £12 for a bearskin headdress is incurred, as against the £2 10s. helmet of other dismounted corps. In rifle battalions, also, the general cost of an outfit is a good deal higher than is the case in the remainder of the line ones. A rifleman's mess-jacket and vest, for example, represent almost seven guineas, and his patrol-jacket five guineas, in comparison with the considerably smaller sums charged for these articles in ordinary infantry regiments.

Considering, then, the scaled prices in force among the military tailors, it is scarcely surprising to find that officers should display a tendency to wear their uniforms as little as possible. The remedy is in the War Office's own hands. Let the "Dress and Equipment Committee" devote a few minutes of their valuable time to designing a military garb that shall not cost more than a civilian one, and that shall last as long. It must not, however, make its wearer look as if he had just been discharged from Wormwood Scrubbs, but had not had time to change his clothes.

AT the Bombay Criminal Sessions yesterday, the three young Khojas, who committed the murder of two of their co-religionists in Khoja Mohalla on the 9th March last, were tried before Mr. Justice Crowe and a special jury. They were unanimously convicted of murder and sentenced to death.

TELEGRAMS.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

MR. STEYN ADVISES SURRENDER.

LONDON, APRIL 14.

It is rumoured that Mr. Steyn has advised the Burghers who are still on commando to surrender.

LONDON, APRIL 15.

Schalkberger is carrying on the Boer Government at Lateberg Pit Middleburg, which has long been the principal supply depot of the Boer commandos.

AFFAIRS IN CHINA.

AMERICA AND THE INDEMNITY.

LONDON, APRIL 14.

It is understood that America proposes to fix the China indemnity on the basis of the number of troops actually employed in the relief of the Peking Legations. According to this Great Britain would rank first, Japan next and the United States third.

THE GERMAN CROWN PRINCE IN VIENNA.

The German Crown Prince is visiting Vienna and has been most cordially welcomed by the Emperor and the people.

A State banquet and gala performance at the Opera have been given in his honour.

THE CHINA STATION.

NAVAL RELIEF.

H. M. S. Eclipse will replace the Hermione on the China Station.

THE ITALIAN SQUADRON.

The Italian Squadron has left Toulon.

THE SOMALI WAR.

LONDON, APRIL 15.

The Mad Mullah in Somaliland is collecting horsemen to attack the British garrison at Burao and already has 8,000 men, but the British garrison is well entrenched and with their present supplies quite able to hold out.

It is expected that a general advance will begin on the 9th May.

DISCOVERY OF GOLD REEFS.

Reuter wires from Pietersburg that rich gold reefs have been discovered at Marchistock in the Marchison range.

THE MAILS.

ADEN, APRIL 15.

The P. and O. Company's steamer Peninsular, with English mails of 5th instant, left here for Bombay at 9 a.m., to-day.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

NAPLES, APRIL 13.

The P. I. S. N. Co.'s steamer Mombassa left here (Jalta boats) this evening.

PLYMOUTH, APRIL 13.

The B. I. S. N. Co's steamer Jelunga arrived here this morning.

COLOMBO, APRIL 13.

The P. and O. Company's s. s. Ballaarat arrived here from Bombay this morning.

The P. and O. Company, s.s. Mazagon (Extra) left here this morning and is expected to arrive in Bombay on the morning of Wednesday, the 17th instant.

The N. Y. K. steamer Muke Maru left Colombo for Bombay on the 15th instant.

The Austrian Lloyds s. s. Moravia, from Bombay, arrived at Aden on the morning of the 13th instant.

The same companies, s. s. Imperatrix, from Trieste, left Aden for Bombay on the afternoon of the 14th instant, and is expected here on the morning of the 20th instant.

The Austrian Lloyds s. s. Cleopatra, from Bombay, 1st instant, arrived at Trieste at 2 a.m. on the 15th instant.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, APRIL 13.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed quiet.

Surats quiet.

Good Bhownugger 3 22-32.

The Manchester market has been quiet.

2 3-4 per cent. Consols	95 3-4
3 per cent. Rentes	101
3 1-2 per cent. Sterling Loan	108
3 1-2 per cent. Rupee Papers	83 3-4
Bar Silver	27 1-8

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

SUPPLIES FOR SOUTH AFRICA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

SIMLA, APRIL 15.

General Henry is confirmed as Quartermaster-General.

General Shone, Director General, Military Works Services, has arrived at Simla.

Lieutenant Bryce, 16th Madras Infantry, reverts from the Commissariat Department to his regiment.

Large quantities of warm clothing continue to be despatched to South Africa from India, a consignment of 57,000 warm coats leaving during the current fortnight and more will follow at the end of the month.

SUCCESSOR TO SIR ARTHUR TREVOR.

The "Pioneer's" statement regarding Sir Arthur Trever's successor is unauthorised and nothing of the kind is known in the best informed circles here. It is true that, it being the turn of Madras to supply a Member to the Supreme Council, Mr. Arundell would be a likely selection, were it settled to appoint a Civilian. But upon this point, as also whether the new Member will immediately represent the Public Works or Agricultural Department no authoritative information is available.

RECEPTION AT RAIPUR.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

RAIPUR, APRIL 14.

A VERY successful garden party was given last evening at Rajkumar College, in honor of Mr. A. D. Younghusband, Commissioner of Chattisgarh Division, who is now going on furlough, by Mr. Visrambhai, of Messrs. Bundali Esmail. All the European officers and ladies and the leading Native gentlemen were invited.

RETIREMENT OF CAPTAIN McCANN.

AN interesting little private reception was held on Saturday afternoon by Dr. J. Pollen, when he presented Captain McCann, on behalf of the past and present Officers of the Salt Department, with a handsome silver bowl with a suitable inscription. Captain McCann is an old resident of Bombay and received his early training under the great, Thomas Ormiston whose statue stands in the University Garden and who did so much for this city. Sir Charles Pritchard selected Captain McCann for the Headship of the Coast Guard Service and Command of the Customs Fleet and Captain McCann has served the Department with devotion for thirty years out of the forty he has spent in India.

THE ROYAL VISIT TO CEYLON.

DEPARTURE FROM COLOMBO.

BRILLIANT SCENES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

COLOMBO, APRIL 15.

Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall left Kandy this afternoon for Colombo. The journey from the King's Pavilion to the Station was made through thoroughfares lined with cheering crowds. A detachment of the 1st Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, which has formed the body guard, was drawn up in front of the pavilion before the departure of their Royal Highnesses. At the Railway Station the Ceylon Volunteers furnished the Guard of Honour. The Artillery Volunteers fired a Royal salute as the Royal train steamed out.

The return of the Royal Visitors to Colombo occasioned the greatest enthusiasm. There were brilliant scenes throughout the afternoon and evening. All the ships in the harbour were dressed with flags and the decorations in the town were very effective. The Ceylon Volunteers supplied the Guard of Honour at the Fort Station and troops lined the streets. Crowds of spectators thronged the route of the royal procession through the town.

The drive round the town began shortly after the arrival. The procession was a triumphal progress, enthusiasm being unbounded.

There was a brilliant gathering at Queen's House to-night when the Governor and Lady Ridgeway held a reception.

The town and harbour were lavishly illuminated, the scene being very fine. The illumination of the Highflyer and other ships of the Indian Squadron was especially brilliant. The display of fireworks at the breakwater was viewed by their Royal Highnesses from the balcony of St. Peter's Church.

Their Royal Highnesses embarked shortly afterwards. A striking picture was formed by one hundred and twenty canoes illuminated by Chinese lanterns, making a passage from the jetty to the Ophir. The general effect of the whole harbour spectacle was extremely beautiful.

The Ophir left soon after the Royal Party went on board.

THE LANSDOWNE ROAD TRAGEDY.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT)

CALCUTTA, APRIL 15.

The judicial inquiry into the Lansdowne Road Tragedy was opened to-day before Mr. F. F. Lyall, District Magistrate of Alipore. Mr. Hume, Government Prosecutor, assisted the Magistrate in the inquiry and Mr. C. O. Moses watched the proceedings on behalf of Mr. Ross, who was the first witness examined and who repeated the statement he had previously made to the police, adding, however, that he had since ascertained that Miss Flora McLeod was a divorced woman and had three children in Scotland.

Major Browne, the Civil Surgeon of Alipore, deposed that he had stated, in his post mortem report, on information supplied by the father corroborated by the fact that the lungs were congested, that the cause of death of the child was asphyxia, due to suffocation. It was quite true, however, that asphyxia might be caused by opium poisoning. He was of opinion that the wounds on the arm and temple of the nurse could have been self inflicted with a pair of scissors. Dr. Moses, who was called by Mr. Ross on the night of the tragedy and examined the child and nurse and who was next examined, was of opinion that the wounds on the nurse could not have been self inflicted.

Mr. Hume contended that the post-mortem report was useless, because it depended on the statement made by the father to the doctor and he therefore applied to have the body of the child exhumed for further examination. Mr. Ross strongly appealed to the Magistrate to refuse this application, but the Magistrate held that it was necessary to have the body exhumed to ascertain the true cause of death and passed an order accordingly. The body was consequently exhumed this afternoon and parts were sent to the Chemical Examiner for analysis.

The nurse, in cross-examination by Mr. Hume, said that her real name was Floria Agnes Wenyon and that she was a married woman, her husband being a doctor in Scotland, but she was divorced by him shortly after her arrival in India on account of her adultery with the Reverend Morrison. Besides herself no one knew of the two boxes that were robbed. The cash and jewels in her almirah were not stolen. On the night of the occurrence she felt that there were thieves in the house but she had not mentioned this fact before to anyone, not even to the Police. The inquiry had not concluded when the court rose for the day. It will be resumed to-morrow morning.

500,000 POUNDS OF GOLD CONSIGNED TO LONDON.

The P. and O. steamer "Borneo", which leaves Calcutta to-morrow morning, takes home pounds 500,000 in gold, which has been consigned to London by the Government of India. The gold was safely shipped on board the "Borneo" to-day.

SIMLA CRICKET.

The fortunes of Simla Cricket must always necessarily be somewhat uncertain owing to the way in which players with good reputations in the game come and go and this season it is pleasant to note that there are signs of better things in store for lovers of the game than last season, when, owing to the exigencies of the South African War and the disturbances in China, Simla was robbed of nearly all its best players. Mr. J. B. Wood, the old Oxford Blue, Captain Rose, and Mr. C. B. Mathew. Lannowe, being the only player of note who participated in the season's cricket. Owing to the large number of good players, who usually spend their annual leave at this favoured spot, it has come to be regarded by lovers of the game throughout India, as affording the best class of cricket, and the player, who goes through a season with the Simla C. C. must be able to make runs and take wickets. The prospects of this season are bright in the, extreme as among other players the services of the following will be available :—Captain C. Wigram, the old Wykehamist, J. B. Wood, (Marlborough and Oxford), B. N. Bosworth, (Harrow), H. D. Watson (Harrow and Oxford), E. Q. French, (Malborough), M. O. C. Tandy, (Tonbridge) C. T. Allen, (Eton), R. Q. Ricketts, (Winchester), and the Rev. H. W. Lewis, a player who will make his *debut* in Indian cricket and who has made a good start, capturing eight wickets and knocking up 40 runs for Bishop Cotton's School vs. Simla last week.

In connection with Simla cricket, it is interesting to note that the season 1899 was the most remarkable in the annals of the Club by reason of the plethora of good players, whose services were available. Among these were, C. Wigram, C. Rom, C. T. Allen, J. B. Wood, C. H. Browning, B. N. Bosworth-Smith, F. S. Turner, E. Q. French, H. Tollinton, R. Q. Ricketts, Lord Suffolk, E. W. Collen, F. Wyatt, and H. C. Reynolds.

THE SIGN OF THE CROSS.

LAST night Mdlle. Dagmar and her Company put on "The Sign of the Cross" at the Novelty Theatre. The piece was very finely staged and the acting through out was good. Mdlle. Dagmar as Mercia, Misses Daisy Blair and Rose Blair, Mrs. George Crofton, and Messrs. George Crofton, George Arnold, Peter Lowe and Frank Duncan were especially excellent. Some of the minor parts were also in capable hands. There was a fair house, but the audience was not so large as the performance deserved. The play will be repeated to-night, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

THE COTTON TRADE.

THE DRAPERY BUSINESS.

ENGLISH COAL IN FRANCE.

LONDON, MARCH 29.

AT the annual meeting of the proprietors of the Manchester Royal Exchange, Mr. Duncan Matheson, in the speech which he usually makes on the occasion, in referring to the Cotton Trade, said: "The year under review had been remarkable in many of its incidents, following as it had the most successful period of prosperity in the cotton interest of Lancashire he could remember. The early months were clouded with the dread of short supplies of cotton, and prices were advancing with starling rapidity, stimulated to a considerable extent under the speculative operations of the "bulls" and "bears" on both sides of the water. To meet this serious emergency the spinners resolved with remarkable unanimity to close their mills for a time, so as to lessen production and prevent stocks accumulating made from high priced cotton, until the scare passed over. To mitigate the temporary loss of wages the masters of the large establishments arranged that the stoppage of work should not extend to more than a week at any given time. This arrangement was gladly received, and the difficulties of the situation were bridged over without any apparent privation on the part of the operatives. The drastic policy of the spinners had in some measure the desired effect; prices of cotton receded to a point which induced the spinners to start the mills on full time, and the manufacturers followed the example, and for two or three months past, he was glad to say, the entire trade had been working at its full capacity, the general demand had revived, and had been to some extent more active. This arrangement also brought into employment thousands of competent and instructed artisans in the subsidiary industries, whose duties were essential and who were dependent on the working of the mills, and the Lancashire operatives were to be congratulated on the pleasant prospect of full employment. It was gratifying to be enabled to report the continued cheapness of all the necessaries of life, and the general social comfort enjoyed by the working classes in consequence. After the very serious and anxious drawbacks spinners and manufacturers had passed through, from the high price of cotton, the enormous advance in coal, the advance of every article used in the mills, together with the compulsory short time forced upon them and the absolute suspension of the China demand for months, they were prepared to receive discouraging accounts of the results of the year's working. Gloomy anticipations were current among business men on the Royal Exchange but these were soon dissipated by the favourable returns of the 77 spinning concerns in Oldham, which were received with general satisfaction. The profits in all cases were considerably less than in 1899, but all had paid dividends, a few had been enabled to pay off old balances, and the financial position of the mills had much improved. Therefore the year could be classed as a most gratifying and unexpected success in our spinning and weaving establishments, in spite of all that had been said by pessimists to the contrary. The Board of Trade returns for January and February revealed the magnitude and also the fluctuations which occurred in the increase or decrease in the imports and exports of our vast trade. Circumstances no doubt would arise during the year to alter considerably the relative proportions of both, but the volume of business transacted was remarkable in the commercial history of the world. It was true that recently a temporary cessation of buying on the part of our merchants, arising mainly from the perplexing uncertainties of cotton—a position too familiar to us during the past year—had been experienced, but this had no reference to the position and prospects of the foreign markets. There was one important and disturbing consideration, however, in adhering to hopeful views—should we have sufficient American cotton to carry on our trade until the new crop appeared? For the present the subject was crowded with speculative ideas, all conjectural and all having a very slender foundation, based principally on individual opinion. It was prudent, therefore, to leave that subject alone as one of the many abortive attempts to disturb the every-day course of business. He did not desire to predict the future course of trade but there were encouraging features which compelled him to take an optimist view of the position. Although in India there was still famine in sections of that vast region, the harvest in the parts more familiar to us promised abundant crops, and the prospects were good. In China, in spite of the general confusion, trade was opening up, and the anticipations of merchants were more encouraging. In South Africa the weary and wasteful war continued, but as business men they had not felt its baneful influence to any great extent. Home trade had been exceedingly prosperous, and promised to continue so, and they could confidently look forward to mills and weaving sheds being kept at work.

It is shown in the report of the British Consul at Havre that 1,942,855 tons of English coal were brought into the seven ports of that Consular district, this representing an increase of 309,784 tons on 1899. Into Havre alone the imports were 856,646 tons, of which 760,431 tons were brought by British vessels. The increasing tendency to employ foreign vessels in the carrying of British coal to the North of France has already attracted attention. The same circumstance is noticed in the reports from the Vice-Consuls at Caen, Dieppe, and Troville. The importation of foreign coal into Havre has hitherto been entirely from the British coalfields, but in 1900 a new feature was introduced into the French coal trade by the arrival of four cargoes of American coal, two for the Chargeurs Reunis Navigation Company, and two for the Western of France Railway Company, amounting altogether to about 19,000 tons. Whether or not American coal will be able to compete successfully in France against British coal depends mainly on the question of freight. Comparing the price of American coal with that of British coal at the ports of exportation in the United Kingdom and the United States respectively, there is a great difference in price in favour of American coal, but the rates of freight are greatly to the advantage of British coal. Taking the lowest rates of freight and the prices at the end of the year, the cost of British coal per ton alongside the quay at Havre would be as follows :—Best Welsh steam coal, 22s. best Newcastle steam coal, 18s. 6d.; Scottish coal, 19s. 9d. The United States Consul at Havre has stated that the price at which the best American coal, which might possibly be substituted for Welsh steam coal, can be put on board ship either at Philadelphia, Baltimore, or New York is 10s. 5d. per ton, and that the ocean freight for coal from any of the above ports to Havre ranges from 15s. to 18s. per ton. Taking the lowest rate of freight and this price per ton the cost of American coal alongside the quay at Havre would be 25s. 5d. per ton. The inference is that it will be impossible for American coal to compete successfully in the North of France against British coal unless American shippers are able to secure cheaper ocean transportation.

The fact that the Argentine Government "has accepted in principle the proposals made by the European bankers for the unification of the whole of the Argentine Debt" has been made the occasion for a fresh spurt in Argentine Government securities. For a long time past this matter has been receiving considerable attention, and on the strength of the arrangement being successfully carried out prices have been advanced. Germany is a large holder of the bonds, and much of the support has come from that country. The projected arrangement, whatever may be the details, and we have none at present, should materially improve the credit of the country. It is as well to remember, however, that such an arrangement is surrounded with difficulties, and though these are not by any means regarded as insurmountable, the process of unification will probably take a long time, and its effect is being rapidly discounted by the appreciation going on in the quotations for the various issues.

The retail drapery trade of the winter season of 1900-1901 being now almost over, the "Warehouseman and Draper" has, in accordance with its custom in previous years, published reports from some hundreds of correspondents upon the extent and character of the business. The correspondents are themselves engaged in the retail trade, and many of them write with obvious intelligence and carefulness. Considering the numerous adverse circumstances which have charcterised this season, the general tenour of the correspondence is surprisingly cheerful. The mildness of the weather up to Christmas, the disturbance of trade occasioned by the death of Queen Victoria, the fluctuations in the prices of the leading textile materials, and the recent depression in the iron and steel industries warranted the expectation that the reports would supply some rather depressing reading. Some of the letters are indeed of this character, but they are not very numerous, and certainly they are fewer in number than even well-informed persons would have anticipated, especially in view of the fact that increased taxation and the knowledge that further additions to the burden have to be faced very soon must have supplied powerful motives for economy in personal and household expenditure. This last-named consideration has especial force in the drapery trade, for amongst the masses of the people drapery is one of the first branches of retail trade to feel the effects of enforced economy in expenditure. Clothes can always be worn a little longer than usual, and dilapidations in household equipment are still more tolerable when lessened income or larger claims upon it of another kind become pressing. But, in addition to heavier fiscal burdens, appeals for voluntary contributions towards relief funds in connection with the South African war are mentioned as having to some extent tended to limit expenditure on drapery.

The demand for black and other mourning materials appears to have been universal and very larege. In many cases it has been sufficient to convert what would have been a rather unfavourable season into a fairly satisfactory one. It is remarkable, however, that this kind of business is much more frequently mentioned as an important redeeming feature in the smaller towns and in the country districts than at the great industrial centres, a fact which seems to show either that great occasions of this kind produce a stronger impression on the rural than on the urban mind, or that the normal expenditure of the classes engaged in manufactures is at the present time more liberal than that of the population in the agricultural districts, and that consequently the special mourning demand was of only relative importance. A Cumberland correspondent says :—"On the death of Her Majesty all the old black hats and neckties were looked up, and many old dresses were turned out, but for new work it made little difference." That report is, however, from Maryport, an industrial and maritime place. Reference is frequently made to the cessation of demand for coloured goods after the death of Queen Victoria, but it does not appear that the stocks of such goods are at all heavy generally, or that any difficulty is anticipated in disposing of them. That is an important consideration in view of the prospects of the coming spring and summer season, which are in many cases referred to as hopeful.

As a rule the reports from the cotton and woollen manufacturing districts, though fairly satisfactory, are not always without complaint. The scarcity and high price of raw cotton in July, August, and September compelled spinners and manufacturers in many cases either to stop machinery entirely or partially, or to work short time. The loss of wages thus occasioned was evidently a cause of lessened expenditure by cotton operatives and their families during the winter months. Hence the corespondence from Preston, Burnley, Oldham, Accrington, Bury, and other towns in the cotton manufacturing districts is less favourable than that from other parts of the country. On the other hand, the reports from the Yorkshire woollen manufacturing centres and from the leading colliery and iron and steel districts are fairly encouraging. The absense of any reference to diminished resources of the population from strikes is especially to be observed. Great interruptions of regular industry arising from such occasions are always conspicuous by their effects in these drapery reports, but no lessening of trade from this source is mentioned in the present correspondance. Indeed, on the whole it conveys an assuring impression not only of the home trade of the part winter, but also of the prospects for that of the coming spring.

One of the most extraordinary phases of the recent movement of the business of transport has been the much larger quantities of heavy freight now moved for very long distances for the purposes of industry than formerly. Half-a-century ago hardly any raw materials of industry were carried for long distances except the coal exported from Great Britian mainly to certain European countries and the raw cotton exported from the United States to feed the mills of Lancashire. By-and-bye, this was followed by a large development of the export of breadstuffs required to feed the population of the United Kingdom, chiefly from the United States. But in those days there was a large margin to work upon but little competition. Thirty years ago, the average freight rate by lake and canal from Chicago to New York was as much as 25 cents per bushel. In 1899, the same service was rendered by lake and canal for less than 4 1-2 cents per bushel, or considerably under one-fifth of the cost of 1869. This remarkable fall of transportation rates has had more to do with the cheap bread which Europe has been enjoying for the last 20 years than anything else. The fall in the cost of flour has been quite as striking as the fall in the rates of freight. In 1869, flour cost 106 cents per barrel in New York, whereas to-day, or rather in 1899, the average price was only 41 cents. It appears, therefore, that while the cost of transport by water fell by 20 cents, the abatement from other sources was 45 cents, partly because of reduced railway freights from the Western States to Chicago, and partly because of the reduced prices at which competition compelled the Western farmers to sell their produce.

It is interesting to consider what the industrial conditions of to-day would have been had not these reductions of the cost of transport come into operation. But for these changes, the possibilities of bringing iron ores from Bilbao, a distance of nearly 1,000 miles; from Almeria and Carthagena, a distance of 1,700 to 1,800 miles; and from Swedish Lapland, a distance of 1,560 to 1,600 miles, to feed the blast furnaces of this country would have been very remote; the chief ironmaking centres of the United States could not have imported their supplies of ore from Lake Superior, a distance of 900 to 1,000 miles by rail and water, or, having done so, they could not have produced their iron and steel at a price that would have enabled them to export them in competition with those of Europe, as they are now doing; our enormous coal export trade, amounting to-day to close on 50 millions of tons, would only have been possible on a small scale; there would have been but little chance of developing the manufactures of the world generally, depending on the use of foreign materials, or on materials of home origin, brought from considerable distances; and finally, all commodities now the subject of extensive interchange would have been much more expensive, and in some cases perhaps prohibitory in price.

THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT AND PLAGUE.

THANKS FOR DR. CHOKSY.

MONS. W. DE KLEMM, the Imperial Russian Consul-General at Bombay, has forwarded to Khan Bahadur Dr. N. H. Choksy, of the Arthur Road Hospital, the following communication from Baron Von Pahlen, the President of the Imperial Plague Commission at St. Pestersburg :—

Sir,—In my report to the Imperial Plague Commission I have stated the constant assistance you gave the Russian Physicians sent to Bombay by the Commission, not only by allowing them free use of all the resources of the Arthur Road Hospital, but still more by facilitating the pursuit of their scientific inquiries with your valuable advice.

In acknowledgement of the aforestated, the Imperial Plague Commission have on March 27 1901, decided to express to you the thanks of the Russian Government for your kind aid to the labours of our scientific investigators.

I consider it my pleasant duty to inform you of the above decision and avail myself of the opportunity to beg you to believe me.—Sir, Yours truly,

BARON PAHLEN.

AN AFGHAN LEGEND.

MR. H. BEVERIDGE in the "Asiatic Quarterly" writes :—In the India Office Library there are two Oriental manuscripts, which are numbered 581 and 582 in Dr. Ethe's new catalogue. Both are entitled "Tawarikh Rahmat Khani," and their contents seem to be nearly identical. But No. 581 is in Pushtoo, though it has a Persian preface and is interspersed with Persian sentences; whereas the other is written in Persian throughout. And though the contents of both manuscripts are very similar, they are—or profess to be—by different authors, No. 581 being by Pir Muazzam Shah, and No. 582 by Hafiz Muhammad Sadiq. Both these men were in the service of the famous and unfortunate Rohilla chief, Hafiz Rahmat Khan, and they wrote their accounts at his directions. Both drew their material from an older work written by one Khwaja in the first quarter of the seventeenth century, and this may account for their contents being nearly identical. Apparently one of them re-wrote the old chronicle in Pushtoo, and the other put it into Persian. Hafiz Muhammad Sadiq, the writer of No 582, tells us that he was a native of Naltopa (?), near Attock, but that on entering Hafiz Rahmat's service he settled at Bili Bihisht (?), near Bareilly. Dr. Ethe states that the work was written in 1184 A. H., or 1770-71; but it must have been added to at a later period, for at p. 15b. 1201, A. H. (1787) is spoken of as the time of writing.

Both manuscripts are mainly occupied with an account of the Yusufzai tribe. No. 582 begins by telling how very powerful the tribe was in Afghanistan, and how their chief, Malik Shah Sulaiman, cherished Mirza Muqim, and supported and advised him when he was young and in trouble. Apparently the chronicler confounds in one place Mirza Muqim with Ulugh Mirza, for he speaks of the former as the son of Abu Said. One day Sheikh Usman, an Afghan saint—or, at least, a wise man in the tribe of the Yusufzais—saw Shah Sulaiman sitting with the young Mirza (? Ulugh) on his knee, and warned him that the boy had the eyes of Yezid, and would destroy him and his family as Yezid had destroyed the family of the prophet. But Sulaiman gave no heed to the warning, and gave the Mirza his daughter in marriage. The result was that Mirza Ulugh invited the Yusufzais to Kabul, and then treacherously put 700 of them to death, together with their leader, Shah Sulaiman. The place where they were killed is called Siah Sang, or the Black Stone, and is near Kabul. It is still called, says the chronicle, the Graves of the Martyrs, and their tombs are reverenced, especially that of Sheikh Usman. Shah Sulaiman was the son of Malik Tajuddin, who had seven sons. Sulaiman was the eldest, and the second son was Sultan Shah, the father of Malik Ahmad. Sulaiman made three requests to M. Ulugh before he was put to death, and one was that the life of his nephew Ahmad might be spared. This was granted. Ulugh Beg died, and his son-in-law and successor, M. Muqim, was defeated by Babar. Meanwhile, the Yusufzais had migrated to Peshawar, but had afterwards returned and taken Swat from Sultan Wais.

When Babar came to the throne of Kabul, he at first professed friendship for the Yusufzais, but he was prejudiced against them by their enemies, the Dilazaks, who enforced their charges against the Yusufzais by promising Babar a subsidy of 70,000 shahrukhis. Babar therefore determined to kill Malik Ahmed the chief of the Yusufzais. But he began by writing to him a friendly letter inviting him to visit him at Kabul. Ahmad agreed to come, and set out, accompanied by four brothers, who were famous musicians. Meanwhile, the Dilazaks had persuaded Babar to put Ahmad to death at once and not to allow him to make a speech, for otherwise, they said. Ahmad was so clever and eloquent that he would induce the King to pardon him.

On Ahmad's arrival at Kabul, he learned that Babar's real object was to put him to death. His companions wanted to tie their turbans together and let him down over the castle wall, but he rejected the proposal as too dangerous both for himself and for them, and resolved to await his fate. However, he told his companions, except one of the musicians, to go and hide themselves in the city. Next morning there was a great assembly, and Babar sat upon the dais-throne. Ahmad made his reverence on entering, but Babar's only acknowledgment of this was to make ready his bow and arrow to shoot him. When Ahmad saw that Babar's intention was not to allow him to speak and to shoot him down at once, he unbuttoned his jerkin and remained standing opposite to the King. When Babar saw this he was astonished, and relaxed the tension of his bow, and asked Ahmad what he meant. Ahmad's only reply was to tell the King to do what he intended, and not to put any question to him. Babar again asked him what he meant, and got the same reply. Babar put the question to him a third time, and added that he could not dispose of the matter without knowing more. Then Ahmad opened the mouth of praise, and after expatiating on Babar's excellencies, he said that there was a great assembly, and that many of Babar's subjects were looking on and expecting to see the shooting. His (Ahmad's) jerkin was very thick, and perhaps the arrow would not pierce it, the shot would fail, and the spectators would blame the King for missing his mark, so he had thought it best to lay bare his bosom. Babar was so pleased with this reply that he at once resolved to pardon Ahmed, and laid down his bow. Then he said to Ahmed:

"What sort of man was Bahlul Ludi?"
"A giver of horses," said Ahmad.
"And what sort of man was his son Sikandar?"
"A giver of robes," replied Ahmad.
"And what sort of man is Babar?"
"He, said Ahmad," is a giver of heads.
"Then, said Babar, I give you your head."

Babar now became quite friendly with Ahmad. He came down from his throne, took him by the hand, and led him into another room, where they had a drinking bout. Three times did Babar have his cup filled, and after drinking a portion, gave the rest to Ahmad. At last the wine went to Babar's head, and he grew so merry that he began to dance. Meanwhile, Ahmad's musician played, and Ahmad, who was a good Persian scholar, poured out an eloquent harangue. When Babar had danced for some time he held out his hands to Ahmad for *bakhshish*, saying: "I'm your performer." Three times did he open his hands, and each time did Ahmad with a profound reverence drop a gold coin into the King's hand. Babar took the coin and each time placed his hand on his head. Then Babar took off his dress, and presented it to Ahmad, who at once took off his coat and put it on the musician, Adu, and then put on the dress given him by the King.

The interview ended satisfactorily for all parties and Ahmad returned to his tribe and recounted his adventures. Some time afterwards Babar wrote another letter to Ahmad inviting him to visit him again. But Ahmad wisely declined to go, saying to his people that he had been once to Kabul and had only narrowly escaped death. He, however, sent his brother—or rather, perhaps, his uncle—Shah Mansur. Babar received him kindly, but soon gave him his dismissal, being annoyed that Ahmad had not obeyed his summons. When Mansur came back, Ahmad told his tribe that Babar would certainly come with an army to punish them, and advised them to retire to the mountains and to make a strong "sangar." They did so, and, as Ahmad had foretold, Babar came into the Yusufzai country with an army. He devastated their lands but found that he could make no impression on their fort. In order to judge better of its character, he as was his wont, disguised himself as a Qalandar, and went off on a dark night, accompanied by some friends to the Mahura hill, where the stronghold was, and which was a day's journey from the king's camp at Diarun. It was the time of the 'Id Qurban, and there was a great feast and assembly at Shah Mansur's house, which was at the back of the Mahura mountain, and is still known as Shah Mansur's throne. Babar, disguised as a Qalandar, went round to the back of the house, and stood among the crowd in the courtyard. Servants were going to and fro, and he asked them about Shah Mansur's family, and if he had any daughter or not. They gave him straightforward answers.

At this time Musammat Bibi Mubarika, the daughter of Shah Mansur, was seated in a tent with some other women. Her eye fell upon the Qalandars, and she sent a servant to Babar with some cooked meat folded between two loaves. Babar asked who had sent it, and the servant said with simplicity: 'Bibi Mubarika, the daughter of Shah Mansur, sent it.' Babar said: Where is she? And the servant replied. 'That is she who is sitting in the tent facing you.' Babar Padshah became entranced with her beauty ("lit.," became four-eyed with regard to her) and asked the servant, a woman, what Bibi Mubarika's disposition, etc., was, how old was she, and was she betrothed? The servant replied by extolling her mistress, saying that her virtues equalled her beauty, that she was pious and brimful of rectitude and placidity, and adding that she was not engaged. After that Babar left with his friends, and going to the back of the house, he hid there between two stones the food that the lady had sent him.

(To be concluded.)

SECOND CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

VAZ'S CASE.

ON the Hon. Mr. Justice Crowe taking his seat on the Bench, yesterday, his lordship informed the jury impannelled on the trial of J. F. Vaz, the Secretary of the Bombay Uncovenanted Service Family Pension Fund, that the Medical Officer in charge of the common jail had sent a certificate to the effect that the Prisoner Vaz was still in a low state of health, and would be unable to attend the court for several days. Mr. Justice Crowe said he would have to attend again on Thursday. He was sorry they should be put to so much inconvenience, but under the circumstances, it was unavoidable.

THE KHOJA MURDER CASE.

The following case was called on before his lordship and a Special Jury.

Goolam Ali Mahomed, Noor Mahomed Alibhoy, and Cooverji Rajan, where brought up for trial in connection with the murders that took place in Khoja Moholla on the 9th March, on which day H. H. the Aga Khan returned from his visits to Europe, Goolam Ali Mahomed was charged with having stabbed Cassum Nanji with a knife. He was also charged with committing murder by causing the death of Heerjibhoy Alirakhla. The second accused Noor Mahamed Alibhoy was charged with committing murder by causing the deaths of Laljee Sajan and Heerjibhoy Alirakhla, and with attempting to murder Abdoolabhoy Laiji. The third accused was similarly charged, and all three prisoners were further charged with conspiring together to commit the offences. The Hon. Mr. Scott, Advocate General, and Mr. Kirkpatrick, instructed by Mr. E. F. Nicholson, Public Prosecutor, appeared for the Crown. The accused were defended by Mr. Strangman. Mr. D. D. Davar watched the proceedings on behalf of the relatives of the deceased.

The following gentlemen were empannelled on the

SPECIAL JURY.

Mr. T. W. Cuffe, Foreman.

Mr. Dinsha P. Batha	Mr. John Reed
Mr. F. S. Fairfield	Mr. H. Blackwell
Mr. Jehangir B. Davar	Mr. J. A. Lord
Mr. T. W. Birkett	Mr. J. Jack

The Advocate General addressed the jury and called evidence in support of his opening statement.

Mr. Scott said that before the Clerk of the Crown read the charges to the jury, he proposed under section 239 of the Criminal Procedure Code, to ask for all three prisoners to be charged with murdering Heerjeebhoy Alirakhia, the first accused to be also charged with the attempted murder of Cassum Nanji, and the other two accused with attempting to murder Abdoolabhoy Laiji. The Advocate-General said if his lordship read the deposition he would find that all the charges formed part of the same transaction.

Mr. Strangman objected and submitted that the charge against the first accused was not connected with those made against the other prisoners. He considered the charges should not be clubbed together.

Mr. Justice Crowe said the only question was whether the prisoners would be prejudiced. It appeared to him that their case would not be prejudiced by trying the three charges together. It was quite clear that the evidence formed part of the same series of transactions. It would, therefore, be saving time to try them together.

The Advocate-General, in opening the prosecution, said the prisoners in the case belonged to what was known as the Aga Khan party of the Khoja community, while the men whom they charged with having murdered, or attempted to murder, belonged to the Issa Hassan sect, which had lately seceded from the Aga Khan party. The evidence in the case would establish that the three accused had conspired together with the intention of attacking the prominent personsof the seceded sect and the three persons who had been attacked on the 9th March were the trustees of the new mosque of the sect. It would be found that the three accused, or one of them, had purchased three knives on the 31st January, which knives were found in their possession on the 9th March. Then again, on the 5th February, one of them purchased three larger knives which were used in the murders. It would also be found that they had been photographed together in a group. The three accused would also be found to have taken food together on the morning of the 9th March. On that morning, H. H. Aga Khan, who was the spiritual leader of the party to which the accused belonged, arrived in Bombay, from his visit to Europe and it was a significant fact that on that day the murders were committed; and a notice appears in the "Times of India" stating that certain persons had seceded from his sect, Mr. Scott having read the notification, said it would be found that the names of the three persons who had been attacked appeared among those who had signed the document. Counsel said the place of meeting of the Khoja community was in Khoja Moholla. Counsel then stated that while Heerjibhoy Alarakhia was passing along that road, he was attacked by all the three accused and died immediately from the stabs inflicted upon him. Counsel described how the accused then separated, the first being arrested while making an attack upon Cassim Nanjee. The other two prisoners then proceeded towards Kurruck Moholla, where they were arrested after having stabbed Abdoolabhoy Laljee. Mr. Scott said the facts were so clear that he was unable to dilate upon them.

Evidence was then called for the Crown.

Essoofali Khsdabhay, a dealer in cutlery, having his shop in Sarang Street, deposed to having sold three clasp knives to the first and second accused on the 31st January.

Noor Mahomed Haji Esack, another dealer in cutlery, carrying on business in Jinjeeker Street, stated he sold the three large knives produced in court to the second accused on the 6th February.

Mahomed Ismail, a photographer, having his studio at Bhendy Bazaar, stated he had photographed the three accused in a group together on the 14th February.

In answer to his lordship, Mr. Scott said one of the photographs was found on each of the accused on the day of the murders.

Abdul Rehman, the keeper of an eating house at Poydhonee, said on the day that Aga Khan arrived in Bombay the three accused had breakfast together at his shop, and afterwards left together. (Cross-examined witness said there was great excitement on the day that Aga Khan arrived. All his followers turned out in large numbers and greeted him with great enthusiasm.

Dr. Khaja Abdulla, Medical Officer in charge of Aga Khan's plague hospital at Don Tod Lane, deposed to seeing the three accused in the hospital at about half past nine o'clock on the morning of the 9th March. He spoke to the second accused and asked them why they were there. The accused said they had came to see a relation who was a patient in the hospital. They did not mention the name of the patient. They were dressed in the same way as in the photograph.

Sooji Datidina, a broker, said he had known the second and third accused for a long time. He was sitting at the shop of Rahimtoola Dhunjibhoy on the 9th March, when a noise in the street attracted his attention. On looking out, he saw the three accused striking Heerjibhoy Alarakhia. They were striking him with knives. He afterwards saw the accused run away in different directions. Finding that Heerjibhoy had fallen down he went up to him, and then found the man was dead.

The

had been sewn on to the garments. Such pockets were not usually worn on Mahomedans' coats. They were just large enough to hold the longer of the two knives.

Mr. Kirkpatrick pointed out to the jury that the material used for the pocket was practically from the same piece of cloth.

This closed the case for the prosecution.

The first accused, in answer to the court, admitted purchasing the knives, and the assaults on Heerjibhoy and Cassum Nanji. He declined to assign any reason for the assaults. The second accused also admitted the purchase of the knives and the assaults on Heerjibhoy and Abdullabhoy. The third accused also admitted the assaults on the last named two persons.

The Advocate General, in closing the case for the Crown, said the accused had practically admitted all that had been alleged against them. He said the purchase of the two kinds of knives, the provision of the special pockets, and their having had their photographs taken showed that most elaborate preparation had been made for the murders. The accused had apparently decided to make martyrs of themselves. He said in the present case history had repeated itself, and cited a case in the year 1848, where a similar disagreement had taken place in the Khoja community. He submitted it was a sad thing that in a civilized city like Bombay, such a clear case of murder and attempted murder should have been possible. On the evidence he asked the Jury to find the three prisoners guilty for having regard to the murderous knives that had been used the object of the prisoners must have been to take life.

Mr. Strangman, for the accused, asked the Jury, if they found his clients guilty, to recommend them to mercy. He submitted that the appearance of the notices in the daily papers had caused the accused to think a slur had been cast upon one whom they looked upon as little less than a God. They had to consider whether, under the circumstances, the prisoners did not think they were performing a religious duty that placed their offence on a different footing from the ordinary crime of murder.

Mr. Justice Crowe, in summing up, pointed out that several of the wounds on the body of Heerjeebhoy were alone sufficient to cause death. The accused had admitted causing his death, and the evidence showed that there had been considerable preparation for the crime. His lordship pointed out how the accused had been seen watching for their victims and dealt with the evidence of the witnesses who had actually witnessed the assaults. On the facts the jury could have very little difficulty in coming to a conclusion. In dealing with the contention raised for the defence, his lordship pointed out that the accused were not justified in taking revenge for anything which they looked upon as amounting to religious persecution.

The jury unanimously found all the prisoners guilty on all the charges.

The prisoners, in answer to the court, said they submitted themselves to the order of the court.

Mr. Justice Crowe sentenced the three prisoners to death.

The first accused then said :—The Manager of the Anjuman-i-Islam should be taken notice of by Government. Were it not for such articles as have been published, we would not have been excited to have done this murderous act.

The prisoners having been removed, Mr. Scott said with regard to the charge of murdering Laljee Sarjan, there was just a possibility that the sentence in the present case might not be carried out. In case that should happen he applied that the remaining case against the accused should be traversed to the next Sessions.

Mr. Justice Crowe agreeing, the Sessions were then adjourned till 11 o'clock this (Tuesday) morning.

WIDENING NARROW STREETS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—I beg to draw attention of the vagaries of our Municipality, in order to show how the poorer quarters of Bombay are indifferently treated, whilst lacs of rupees are spent in improving and altering parts where the comfort of the higher folks are concerned.

Take Marine Lane. Its eastern end was widened, and, by the removal of obstructing buildings, improved lately ; yet the middle and western end are narrow strips ; yet in the middle of the Lane a Municipal kutchra cart its so placed that two opposite carriages can hardly pass without accident. The cart is so placed because there is an obstruction of a broken and dilapidated wall just behind it, but can be easily removed, or got at by purchasing a few feet of ground under the Land Acquisition Act, and so push the cart behind and keep the lane clear ; or, if necessary, as a temporary measure, by paying a nominal rent for 10 to 12 square feet for the time being.

In the southern end of Trinity street, which is narrow in itself, there is an old building protruding about 4 to 6 feet, just in the "middle" of the street, and narrows the part thereof to very great inconvenience of carriages coming from opposite directions. It is allowed to stand as it is, though the inconvenience to the public is apparent, of which the Executive Engineer must be aware, as he used to come often to the street to examine the state of the buildings last year. Acquisition of the portion of the building under the Land Acquisition Act would not cost much and would add to the respectability of the Lane, which is already narrow.

The third Marine Lane, or Vaniawadi, as it was and is called, is improving in width gradually, but the Eastern end of it is so narrow that carriages, coming from opposite directions cannot pass together. The only obstruction is a flat building, holding a liquor shop, which can be easily removed for the expenditure of a few hundred rupees if acquired under the Land Acquisition Act. This improvement will add to the respectability of the lane, cause an increase of rent to the house properties and an increase of tax to the Municipality. Hoping this will draw the attention of the Chief Municipal authority and its executives.—Yours, &c.,

ARDASHEER M. MALABARVALA.

MAHABLESHWAR SKY RACES.

TUESDAY, 7TH MAY. AND THURSDAY, 9TH MAY.

Patron :—His Excellency Lord Northcote, G. C. I. E.
Local Stewards :—Lt.-Colonel Croly, R.A.M.C, Major G.H Conran, Capt. Baynes, A. D. C, Capt. the Hon. C. F. Greville
Honorary Secretary.

FIRST DAY.—TUESAY, MAY 7.

1st Race.—Grant National. Rs. 100. A hurdle race for Maiden Arab and C. B. ponies 14-1 and under to carry 12st, 7 lbs. W. for 1. Penalties :—Winner of a hurdle race or steeplechase value Rs. 100 or over to carry—once 7 lbs. twice 10 lbs , oftener 14 lbs.—Distance about 1 1-4 miles.

2nd Race—Palo Pony Scurry Winner Rs. 60, second Rs. 25. For all bona fide Arab and C. B. polo ponies certificate required that they have been regularly played : 14-1 to carry 12st. W. for 1. Penalties :—Winners of race value Rs. 50 or over—once 7 lbs., twice or oftener 10 lbs.—Distance 1-2 furlongs.

3rd Race—Mahableshwar Purse. Rs. 100. For English and Australian ponies 14 hands and under, and all Arab and C. B. ponies 14-1 and under that have never started previous to the meeting for a race value Rs. 53. Australian and English 14-3to carry 12st ; 14-1 Arabs 11st. 14-1 C. Bs. 11st, 7 lbs. W. for 1.—Distance 6 furlongs.

4th Race.—The Governor's Cup. Winner a cup valued at Rs. 100, and Rs. 60 second Rs. 25. For all Maiden Arab and C. B. ponies 14-1 and under : 14-1 Arabs to carry 11st. ; 14-1 C. Bs. to carry 11st. 7 lbs. W. for 1. Penalties :—Winners of a race value Rs. 50 or over—once 5 lbs. twice 7 lbs., oftener 0 lbs.—Distance 5 furlongs.

5th Race.—The Novice Stakes. Rs. 100. For all English and Australian ponies 14 hands and under and all Arab and C. B. ponies 14-1 and under that have never won a race value Rs. 50. 14-0 English and Australians to carry 12st. 7 lbs ; 14-1 Arabs 11st. ; 14-1 C. Bs., 11st. 7 lbs.—Distance 1 mile.

SECOND DAY.—THURSDAY, MAY 9.

1st Race—A Handicap Hurdle Race. Rs. 100. For al Arab C. B. ponies 14-1 and under.—Distance 1 1-4 mile.

2nd Race—The Panchgani Handicap. Rs. 100. For all Arab and C. B. ponies that have never won a race value Rs. 100 or over.—Distance, 1-2 mile.

3rd Race—Polo Pony Handicap. Winner Rs. 60, second Rs. 25. For all bona fide Arab and C. B. polo ponies 14-1 and under. Certificate required that ponies have been regularly played.—Distance 2 1-2 furlongs.

4th Race—The Hack Stakes. A Handicap Rs. 100. For all ponies 14-1 and under that have never started previous to the Meeting for a race value Rs. 50 or over.—Distance 3 furlongs.

5th Race—The Kolhapur Cup. Winner Rs. 100, second Rs. 25. A handicap for all Aran and C. B. ponies 14-1 and under.—Distance 5 furlongs.

6th Race.—The Consolation Handicap. Winner Rs. 60, second Rs. 25. For all ponies 14-1 and under that have run and have not won at the Meeting.—Distance 3 1-2 furlongs.

GENERAL CONDITIONS,

1. W. I. T. C. Rules.
2. First Entries, Rs. 5, close Thursday, 25th April 1901. Second Entries, Rs. 8, close 2 p.m., Friday, 3rd May 1901.
3. Entries must be accompanied by remittance or they will be declined. Starting declarations must reach the Honorary Secretary by 8 p.m. on the day before the race.
4. No starting sweeps.
5. 10 per cent. of lotteries to go to the fund.
6. Ponies not holding W. I. T. C. or C. T. C. certificates of higher will be measured according to the Rule 39 on payment of fee—Rs 10.
7. Handicaps only open to horses and ponies that have started at the Meeting.
8. In the event of W. O. only half the advertised money will be given.
9. Arabs landed since 1st August 1900 allowed 6lbs. except in handicaps. Mares and Geldings allowed 3lbs., except in handicaps. Ponies new measurement allowed 5lbs.
10. G. Rs. in all races. Colours to be worn.
11. R. C. is about 5 furlongs.
12. All races closed to Officers of the Army and Navy and to Members of the Civil Service, recognised Clubs and W. I. T. C.

C. F GREVILLE, Captain, A. D. C.,
Honorary Secretary.
Government House, Malabar Point, March 1901.

THE Emperor William's third son, Prince Adalbert, will join the training ship Charlotte as a cadet for his first voyage on April 19. The Charlotte will call at all the German, Russian, and Swedish ports of the Baltic, and return to Kiel for the regatta week

THE VALUE OF THE RUPEE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—Last week one of the correspondents of your contemporary speaking about the budget called the 16d. rupee a false one, and charged the authorities with having virtually raised the Land and other revenue 40 per cent. by bolstering up the rupee from its silver value of 11 1-2d. Now, in my opinion, this is a very complex question and cannot thus be answered off-hand. In the first place, we must ascertain what was the value of the rupee when the amount of land revenue to be paid to Government was first settled, and also at the various periods when the assessment was revised. With regard to this point we can roughly say that the value of the rupee was then greater than it is even at present, and certainly much greater than it had been for some years before the currency legislation was introduced.

A much more important question, however, is what share of the produce the proprietor or the cultivator of the land had to sell in order to pay the assessment on his land, when the land revenue was first fixed or last modified, and what share of the same he has to sell now to pay his assessment. A satisfactory solution of this question will, I think, go to the root of the problem whether the land-tax has been recently increased or decreased, and by how much ; and I earnestly ask the correspondent in question to apply himself seriously to the solution of this important problem. If the case show, that the land-holder has to sell now 40 per cent. more of the produce of the land than at the time I have indicated, and not in the interval of the monetary interregnum, if I may so call it, when nobody knew how low the rupee would go, along with the silver contained in it, then and then alone he can sustain his charge of surreptitious increase of assessment at one bound to such a serious extent as he alleges. But I don't think he can do that.

However, not to anticipate matters, we may take our stand upon higher ground. We must, first of all, purge our minds of any crude ideas, if we have any, as regards any essential or permanent hostility or interests between Government and ourselves, or between taxpayers and the taxeaters as he would prefer to put it. The rulers and the ruled, abstractedly speaking, are as it were, the obverse faces of the same entity, viz., the body politic. In one sense we are all rulers, as in another sense we are all ruled. At least this should be the ideal state of things, if it already is not, and the tendency of things undoubtedly is in that direction.

So then, if there is no real conflict of interests between us and our rulers, why, even an increase of taxation to the tune of 40 per cent. and even more must be faced, if the 16d. is proved to involve it, unless we are prepared to see the whole Government machinery come to a stand-still or seriously retarded. In such circumstances, the real and proper duty of every intelligent and loyal citizen is firstly to bear his share of the common burden, and, secondly, to show in a constitutional and convincing manner in what directions and to what extent economies may safely be effected.

That India is overburdened with taxation at present, not relatively to population, nor relatively to other countries, but relatively to the ability of the people to pay taxes, will be conceded by all who admit that India is essentially a poor country as is amply evidenced by the frequent recurrence of famines during so many years past. Some time ago, if I remember right, even Lord George Hamilton admitted that the last famine was not so much a food-famine as a money-famine, that there was ample food in the country to sustain all the population in the land, and that there were also sufficient facilities for its distribution over all the famine-stricken areas. But the poor people who died had not wherewithal to pay for it, and hence such appalling mortality as is revealed by the recent census returns.

It follows from this, that whether the country at present be lightly taxed or heavily taxed, it is not able to bear the burden without great inconvenience, and therefore if taxation "can" conveniently be reduced, it is a consummation devoutly to be wished.

The question then naturally arises, can economies be effected in any directions, and if so in what directions? Now in order to answer this question, and in order that the answer given may prove acceptable, the authorities must be willing to concede certain obvious points. The calamities that have befallen both India and the whole British Empire during the last few years, such as the two famines in India, the continuance and spread of plague, the South African and the Chinese wars, and last of all the most lamented death of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, though altogether deplorable, have done India at least one incalculable good. They have shown to you (the ruling race) beyond all doubt that we Indians are loyal to the core whether our loyalty be based upon an enlightened sense of self-interest as Lord Dufferin would have put it, or upon a deeper foundation. You yourself, sir, have generously borne unstinted testimony to that effect on several occasions during the past few years and notably after the passing away of Victoria the Good.

If the rulers then admit that fact without reservation there are economies possible in a few directions, economies to be effected, necessarily, slowly, but with a firm hand and a resolute heart. The great items of Indian expenditure are, roughly speaking, three—(1) Home charges, (2) Civil expenditure and (3) Military expenditure.

As regards the first, I don't think that any great economies are possible, and some have recently been effected. The interest on debt constitutes the greater portion, and interest on money borrowed must be paid.

As regards the second item Government, if they so will, can effect tangible retrenchments by gradually substituting competent native agency in place of the European agency at small salaries, say at two-thirds the rate at which the latter agency is paid. Natives can always live more cheaply, especially in their own country than Europeans, and I think no injustice will be done to them, if they are paid at such lower rates, except in the case of Native Civil servants who have to make so many sacrifices of money and other things, to enter that service under the present restrictions and limitations which, by the bye, we may once for all, admit as necessary in the interest of us all, at least for several decades to come. But in other branches of civil administration they may be paid at a smaller rate than Europeans. Indeed that is one of the chief grounds, if not the sole ground, on which this gradual replacement, whenever practicable, is to be recommended and justified.

Now we come to the last item, and here, I think, there is room for greater economies still than in the previous item. The English soldier is admittedly a much dearer article than the native sepoy ; and therefore, if so far as practicable, the latter be substituted for the former, considerable retrenchment in military expenditure can be effected. But this of course requires a large heart and a bold hand, or rather, a sustained large-hearted policy for many years to come. However, if the British people are thoroughly convinced of our loyalty as a nation, such a departure can be made with perfect safety, though slowly and step by step.

The European soldier, in that case, will have to be employed only for external defence, and especially to meet hostile European enemies. As far as all internal defence and that part of the external defence which is involved in meeting possible Asiatic foes is concerned, the Native sepoy may be employed with perfect safety and the greatest economy ; and in that way and in that way alone, can military expenditure be materially curtailed. The expenditure involved in supplying the men with improved arms, and in erecting necessary defences on the frontiers, admits of no curtailment. There we must at least follow in the footsteps of other nations, if indeed we do not show them the way. I have thus tried to point out in what way the burden of taxation may be lightened without taxing ourselves with the solution of the question whether at present the landholder pays more or less than he did in the past. That question, however, has an importance of its own, and I hope the gentleman mentioned correspondent or some one else takes it up. However, I cannot but observe in passing that this troublesome land-revenue question would not have arisen in its present phase, if Government could have seen their way to raise the land revenue in kind and not in money. But that is perhaps beyond the region of practical politics, though I for one do not think so, remembering the resourcefulness of British statesmanship. Yours, &c.,

Thana, April 91. N. L. P.

AT Berlin on March 21, in the course of the further debate on the third reading of the Estimates, Herr von Podbielski made the following statement with regard to the exchange of telegrams between Germany and England : "In using the so-called duplex telegraph, despatches are dealt with on both sides immediately, and in the order of receipt. In the case, however, of lines, on which telegrams can be sent from only one side at a time, it has been found that more messages are received by Germany from England than vice versa. By desire of the mercantile community interested in the receipt of messages from London, the system will therefore be tried of taking messages in series and allowing a longer time for English messages than for German ones. But this will be only an experiment."

ADVICE TO MOTHERS :—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeths. Go at once to a chemist and get a bottle of MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately. It is perfectly harmless and pleasant to taste, it produces natural quiet sleep by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes as bright as a button. It soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery and diarrhœa whether arising from teething or other causes. MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP is sold by Medicine dealers everywhere 1s. 1½d. per bottle.

THANA NEWS.

OUR local correspondent, writing on Sunday, says:—In response to a circular letter issued by the District Judge, a special meeting of members of the Pleaders' Bar and the Municipal Councillors and others was held under the chairmanship of Mr. S. R. Tipnis, B.A., in the Law Library of the District Court of Thana yesterday, and it was unanimously resolved that copies of the rules and regulations regarding the Lady Dufferin's Fund be distributed to the leading men of the town for the collection of subscriptions and a general meeting be called sometime during the next vacation of the Courts, for the purpose.

It is stated that the Native Lunatic Asylum at Nawapada in Thana will be opened for the use of public patients on the 1st June next, and it will be put in charge of the Civil Surgeon of Thana, pending the appointment of the Superintendent of the Asylum.

The following students of the East Indian communities of Salsette and Bassein have completed their course of studies this year in the Episcopal Seminary of Damaun :—Messrs. M. V. Pereira, P. J. Lima, M. Baptista and J. G. Pereira.

The following members of the Kayastha Prabhoo Education Society of Indore (in Central India) forwarded subscriptions to the Memorial Fund of the late Rao Saheb Sitaram Khanderao Vaidya, M. S. A. of Thana, who was the heart and soul of the Society and took great interest in establishing the Prabhoo Social Club at Thana :—Messrs. Balkrishna Atmaram Gupte Rs. 50 Narayan Amrat Vaidya Rs. 25 and Shankar Trimbak Bandive Rs. 10.

Mr. J. M. Gomes, Police and Revenue Patel of Bhynder in Salsette, has been awarded a certificate of merit by the Government of Bombay, for the satisfactory manner in which he carried out the measures adopted to minimise the ravages of plague, which had recently broken out in that village.

The Thana Municipality have applied to Government for a loan of Rs. 10,000. Rupees 3,000 are to be used for urgent repairs to the dam of the Pokharan Reservoir and Rs. 6,500 for the payment of compensation for land taken up for widening the Station Road in the Bazar. The income of the Municipality in 1899-1900 was Rs. 32,320.

Six births (four males and two females) and eighteen deaths (including four from plague) were registered in the town of Thana during the past week. There were three cases and three deaths from plague at Santa Cruz and twenty-seven deaths (including twelve from plague) were recorded at Coorla during the same period.

Mr. Pestonji Hormasji Patuk, B. A., L. C. E., Executive Engineer, Northern-Konkan has been nominated a member of the District Local Board, Thana. Mr. Bapuji Sorabji Fazilfar has been authorized to practice as a Pleader in the District Courts of Thana from the 16th instant.

INDIAN CROP PROSPECTS.

BENGAL RABI.

A NOTE on the rabi crops in Bengal for 1900-1901 reads :—

Explanatory.—Hitherto this forecast has included rabi crops of all kinds, and figures for wheat, sugarcane, cotton (early and late) and rabi oilseeds, for which separate forecasts are issued by the Department, of Lands Record and Agriculture, Bengal were given in it. With Government Order No. 2369T.—R., dated the 3rd November 1900, however, instructions have been received for the omission from the "bhadoi and rabi" forecasts of all crops for which separate reports are prepared. These orders have been carried out and this is the first note on the rabi crops of these provinces from which figures of wheat, cotton and oilseeds have been omitted.

Character of the season.—The monsoon rains of the year 1900 were capricious and badly distributed, and the cold weather season has been abnormal in many respects. At the commencement of October the districts of the Presidency Division had not recovered from the unprecedented fall of rain in September, while in many districts of Northern and Eastern Bengal the rainfall was in considerable defect. There was little or no rain in the months of October and November, and the prospects of the rabi crops suffered in consequence, while the area sown with them was restricted. In December, January and February, the rainfall considerably exceeded the normal in Chota Nagpur, Orissa, and in parts of Bihar, but was deficient in North and East Bengal. The excess of rain did a good deal of damage in some districts, while the want of it was seriously felt elsewhere. The season was, on the whole, therefore, unfavourable to the growth and ripening of the rabi crops.

Area sown.—Excluding the areas sown with wheat, rotton and oilseeds, the normal area under the different rabi crops in these Provinces stands at 9,493,300 acres. The area cultivated this year with the several rabi crops is 9,017,800 acres as compared with 9,262,000 acres in the preceding year. The area under rabi food crops this year is 7,647,200 acres against 7,754,200 acres, the estimated are last year. As has been noted above, the reduction in area is mainly due to the sudden termination of the monsoon rains early in October last and the area placed under these crops in the Presidency Division was also affected by floods.

Outturn.—It will be seen from Appendix I, that out of the 45 districts in these Provinces, only one, Saran, anticipates an outturn above the normal (111 per cent.), and in only two others (Birbhum and Backergunge) is a normal outturn expected. Of the rest, twenty districts estimate an outturn varying between 89 and 99 per cent., eleven others estimate an outturn varying between 60 and 79 per cent., while in the remaining 11 districts the estimate falls below 60 per cent. Taking the Provinces as a whole, the District Officers estimate the probable outturn of the rabi crops at 79 per cent. of a normal crop, as against 88 per cent. estimated lasty ear. I believe, however, that the returns are in some cases unduly pessimistic, and it seems probable that the ill effects of the rain and cloudy weather in January and February last have been over-estimated. In these circumstances, I anticipate that the outturn will not fall short of 85 per cent. for the provinces as a whole.

Gross outturn of summer rice.—I append a statement showing approximately the probable outturn of the "boro" or summer rice crop, accepting 88 per cent, as the estimated outturn. It amounts to 3,094,900 cwts. as against an outturn of 3,286,600 cwts. reported last year.

THE DECLINE OF THE RED MAN.

A CURIOUS study in ethnology is afforded by the decline of the red Indian tribes in the Far West of America. American sociologists say that it has come about by intermarriage with whites. For the most part white men are responsible for it, because they have married Indian women more than Indian men have wedded white women. In the first place, the Indian women have quite a fortune, and that has attracted some white men to them, while the Indian men are notoriously unkind to their wives, and can seldom get an Indian woman to marry them willingly. In accordance with the general rule of the Indian Department of the United States, any white man who marries an Indian woman is entitled to share in the funds of the tribe just the same as the woman herself. Their children are also allowed their equal share with the mother. Nearly every woman has money deposited with the United States for land sold many years ago, which brings in a certain income. Some of the richest men in the West are those who have married Indian wives and have a large family of children. The Indian chiefs all try to win a white bride, as it is considered a mark of distinction. The Government encourages the marriage of white men to Indian women as the true way to civilise the redskins. Some of the five civilised tribes are controlled by those who have married Indian women. The Cnickashaws are very much opposed to white men may be, it would seem that the Indian race is likely to disappear by marrying into their tribe, but none of the other tribes are. However it gradual decay.—"The Humanitarian."

MARRIAGE UNPOPULARITY INCREASING

IT is all very well for German doctors to maintain and prove to the hilt that marriage is more conducive to longevity than celibacy ; but this will not help women to find the means of thus lengthening their days, nor will it aid young men of insufficient income to surmount the barrier which keeps them back from the altar. Indeed, it must be extra tantalising to learn that marriage and longevity are more often associated than old age and single blessedness. Matrimony is an elixir vitae that is certainly not within the reach of all, and it looks as if there were less and less desire, even on the part of those who can avail themselves of it, to make the experiment, for it is more and more apparent that the average age of both brides and bridegrooms is higher than formerly.—"Lady's Pictorial."

MR. H. G. KEENE has republished in book form the interesting series of articles he contributed to the "Calcutta Review" on the French and English free-lances who found their opportunity in the chaos which preceded the establishment of British power in India. Sir Richard Temple contributes the felicitous preface. The brochure is published by Messrs. Thacker, Spink of Calcutta.

THE SCENE ON SPION KOP.

A FRIGHTFUL SPECTACLE.

THE DESCRIPTION OF AN EYE-WITNESS.

As we started from our bivouac towards the fatal kop all was comparatively quiet on its summit. The stormers, having won the hill after a brief scuffle with a surprised picket, were busy rearranging the confusion of a night-advance, and piling up sangars with the few loose stones available : the enemy, much disconcerted for the moment, were quarrelling in the background as to their next move. Some were for retreat, others for a counter-attack, a difference of opinion subsequently split by a retirement of the whole of the Boer transport. Only a few hardy spirits lay on the far end of the ridge, waiting in the truest spirit of soldiery for "something to turn up." Over all lay a dense mist, and a quiet which was curiously contrasted with the far-off volleys from the spurs and gorges of our left attack. Then the sun rose, and the mists fled before it first from the green hollows and kloofs, then fading from the steep hillside, the boulders appearing wet and glistening beneath it, then from the summit itself. When the last filmy coil had disappeared, one could see the crowded figures of the British force like little black marionettes against the light-blue sky, and how thick they appeared ! Surely the summit must be very narrow if but one brigade must huddle together in this manner, a mark such as artillery men dream of, but seldom hope to see in waking moments. The Boer artillerymen (no dreamers these) see them almost as soon as we do. A boom from the high ground, which ran like the crosspiece of a T across the line of the kop, a puff of woolly smoke in the air, and a shrapnel-shell, timed to a fraction, has swept through the pact upon the hill-top. Then the rifle-fire began, sharp, angry, incessant, from every crevice and every knoll : to us below the whole mountain seemed alive with noise. Then more shrapnel, strings of it, dotting the cobalt sky with balls of smoke as if a giant hand were flinging snow balls into the air, whilst beneath the mob of tiny figures swayed and shook, disintegrated and re-formed into packs in a manner terrible to see to one who knows what the lash of shrapnel is like. Now a trio of shells would burst at the rear end of the mob, which appeared to surge forward a little, reducing the depth of the target ; then another placed with diabolical skill in advance of the first ; the men in rear edged still farther forward, until a solid mass of humanity stood relieved upon the sky-line. Quick as a flash the whole Boer battery was upon them, bang ! bang ! bang ! bang ! a storm of projectiles tore into the black lump, which broke up into agitated patches, some edging forwards, some back, some disappearing altogether, as the men composing them fell lifeless below our line of vision. Again the same performance, shells behind, more forward, herding their victims on to the slaughter-ground; for the "coup-de-grace" of that appalling salvo. Splendid gunnery, but a frightful spectacle in all its silhouetted clearness up there on the razor-backed ridge, visible to the angry pitying eyes of the whole army. Meantime the artillery on Three-Tree Hill and the big naval ordnance over Potgeiter's blazed and thundered and roared their best and hardest, at first methodically, with calculation and much confabulation and levelling of telescopes, then impatiently, then wildly and despairingly. Will those Boer guns never stop ? You may take it on the word of one that much of them has been fairly hit at least six times ; but still the booming from Heaven knows where, and, the balls of smoke, "soft as carded wool," over the summit of Spion Kop. Even the pompoms—whose lairs must be less hard to locate, since five-and-thirty different officers hurry up during the day to point out the exact position in five-and-thirty different places—add their stream of shells without let or hindrance to the avalanche falling upon the unfortunate men of Woodgate's brigade, the stormers of yesterday, the sufferers to-day. Poor General Woodgate himself is sharing it to the full: a bullet in the head, weeks of pain and a grave in the peaceful little kirkyard of Mool river,—such is the price too many another gallant man must pay when doctors or generals disagree, and too many resource to experiments. Then the mist and the night came down together : the firing ceased ; but the weary thousands below, on Three-Tree Hill, in the gorges, and on the mighty escarpments, slept not a wink for fear of what might befall the stricken hundreds on the kop.—From "Dies Irae," by "Luesman," in "Blackwood's Magazine" for April 1901.

FLIES AND WORSE THINGS.

A FLY alights on your finger tip ; the brain is instantly informed of it ; the fly is shaken off. That is the nerve telegraph.

You lift a piece of meat on a fork, put it in your mouth, then chew and swallow it. In a few hours that meat, or part of it, is transformed into bone and muscle. Imagine an old house, having the power to get rid gradually (so as to leave no holes) of the old bricks, and to put new ones in their places ! You would like own such a jolly good house as that. What a blessed saving in the cost of repairs. I should say so. Houses, however, are not endowed with that faculty. Worse luck for the carpenters, masons, and bricklayers if they were.

The human body nevertheless builds itself. Its organs constitute a genuine community. They all work together—each for the good of all the rest—just as a church choir, having caught the keynote, sings in harmony. Abuse or insult one of them and the others immediately take up his quarrel—like the dear old dog that the fights for his master without bothering his head as to the merits of the row. Perhaps knowing this, we can better come at the meaning of the trouble a certain woman had, who is kind enough to have written about it to let us print her letter here.

"I often fell down quite powerless," she says "and was *never sure of my footsteps*." What ailed her ? She was not lame, she had received no injury to her limbs. Why then should she have been doubtful where her feet would fall?—in broad daylight too and on a smooth floor.

Hear the words of a great doctor, describing the signs of a particular malady. "There is a difficulty in walking," he says, "and an inability to stand steadily with the feet together. Sometimes the patient feels as if the ground were always soft ; and again the muscular sense is impaired, so there is hesitation in telling the difference in weight between things taken in the hand—even when one is light and the other quite heavy. The eyesight becomes affected, so the patient cannot be sure how near or how far away an object is, or its colour. Some feel as if a cord were tied tight around the body, or around a leg or an arm."

The lady alluded to had one, and perhaps others, of these feelings. "I was more or less ill," she says, "for many years. Much of the food I took turned sour on my stomach I was troubled with flatulence, and frequently threw up a fluid of a biting nature, and a bitter taste. In October, 1895, a dreadful pain struck into my right hip. I was in great agony and could scarcely move a step for fear of falling,

"On account of a pain in the stomach, which at times was nearly unbearable, I got but little sleep. One after another I consulted five doctors, none of whom did me any good. In this state I remained five years, suffering beyond all I am able to set forth in writing or in speech.

"Then I read of Mother Seigel's Syrup and got a bottle from Mr. Roberts, the Chemist at Llanfairfechan. That single bottle relieved me. I could eat and sleep better, and began to have the natural use of my legs. Under the influence of this medicine it was not long before all pain left me and *I could walk with ease*.

"Besides this special benefit my general health was better than it had been for many years. Thanks to Mother Seigel's wonderful remedy I am now in good health." (Mrs). Catherine Jones, Orient House. Llanfairfechan. North Wales, June 30, 1893.—

Our correspondent had been afflicted with indigestion—often called chronic dyspepsia when it lasts long enough. The acid poisons created by this had reached every part of her body. Between the want of nourishment and the effect of the poisons the nerves of motion and the nerves of sensation were starved and disordered. Hence the sleeplessness, the agony in the hip (probably sciatica), and the difficulty in walking. Her escape from worse troubles was providential indeed.

As has been said, the source of the ailments which so pained and distressed this lady was the diseased digestive organs—especially the stomach and liver. they supply the elements of life and health ; and when they are out of order the body languishes and cries out in its misery, like one in a dungeon without food or drink. The virtue of Mother Seigel's Syrup resides in its power to rectify the digestion, which is practically the chief thing to do.

THE Geneva correspondent of the "Standard" says :—A serious avalanche of snow has taken place at the Simplon passes, destroying a great number of chalets and causing the death of two persons. The village of Simplon is liable to be destroyed at any moment. It is impossible to send any assistance on account of the depth of the snow.

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THE NOAKHALI APPEAL.

IN the Calcutta High Court, before Mr. Justice Amir Ali and Mr. Justice Pratt, the appeals preferred by Sadak Ali, Anwas Ali and Aslam from the decision of Mr. A. P. Pennel, suspended Sessions Judge of Noakhali, who convicted them under section 302 of the Indian Penal Code, and sentenced Sadak Ali to the extreme penalty of the law and the other two appellants to transportation for life, was heard during the last few days. Mr. P. M. Guha, instructed by Babu Surendra Nath Guha, appeared for the appellant. Mr. Gordon Leith, Deputy Legal Remembrancer, appeared for the Crown.

The facts, as appears from the judgment, are briefly these :—The deceased in the case was one Ismail Jaigirdar, who was a peon of the Bhulna Estate under which he held a jagir. He lived in a hamlet of 14 or 15 houses included in the village, and had several tenants with whom he was on bad terms and was always at litigation with, both in the civil and criminal courts. About 8 or 9 a. m. on the 25th of August, 1900, Ismail Jaigirdar started from his house to the Court at Sudharm where his disposition was required in a certain case. Having given his evidence he left for his house after dark about 6-30 p. m. and was seen going towards his house which, however, he did not reach, nor was he seen alive again. Early next morning, however, his son on going to a tank in front of the house belonging to the deceased saw his father's dead body floating face downwards near to the ghat. The boy began to cry and several neighbours came up, and one Osman Ali Chowkidar, also an accused in the case, who has, however, not been sent up for trial, advised the boy not to take the body out of the tank until he had given information at the thana. Later on in the day the boy acting under the advise of some of the neighbours, went first to a muktear named Ashruf Ali in regard to the matter and then went on to the thana and laid the first information. Subsequently enquiries were set on foot by the police of Sudharam, but as no one was sent up for trial by the police, it is alleged that Idris suspected that his father, who had been at enmity with Sadak Ali and a number of others, had been murdered by them or some other enemies and presented a petition to the District Magistrate asking for assistance. The matter was referred to Mr. W. G. Reily, District Superintendent of Police with a request from Mr. Ezechiel, the District Magistrate, to personally investigate the case. His investigations proving unsatisfactory, the Magistrate then deputed the inspector of Lukhipur to take up enquries. The three appellants and another man, named Yakub-Ali, were thereupon arrested and sent for trail before the Deputy Magistrate who committed the case to the Sessions. The trail then came before Mr. Pennell, and the two Hindu assessors found the three appellants guilty, and they were sentenced, as stated above, while Yakub Ali was given the benefit of the doubt and discharged. On Friday, the last day of the hearing, Mr. Guha submitted that the place of occurrence was close to the house of Nundabassi, and the case for the defence was that this man was looking after the case for the prosecution and that him the witnesses through were secured.

Mr. Justice Amir Ali,—What was the motive for bringing a false charge against the accused? Is there any enmity between them? How did they happen to be called in to give evidence against the accused ? Mr. Guha replied that one witness, Torab Ali, was a witness on behalf of Ismail in a cattle theft case and he was further challanged in a case by Osman Ali, and sentenced to a month's imprisonment and fined, so that he had a duty to perform in being with complainant's party, viz., first, he was a friend of the deceased, and, secondly, he was Osman Ali's enemy. The other witness, Hossain Ali, was also a friend of the deceased who had before his death cited him as a witness in a civil case and also in two or three other cases, and was what is commonly know as a habitual witness, and it would be found that all the witnesses were connected in some way or another with the complainant or his party. Mr. Guha then commented on the fact of witnesses not being examined for the defence, and drew attention to the remark of the Sessions Judge that if Osman Ali had been called and examined he would not have believed him. He did not think it was possible for the defence to have produced a man in a better position than Mr. Reily, but the Sessions Judge had altogether disbelieved his evidence, and he was condemned as a liar and forger and sent to hajut, in consequence of which the defence pleader did not call his remaining witnesses.

Mr. Guha went on to say that in this case, the learned Sessions Judge made observations, some of which would show at least the spirit with which he had prejudged the case, and that his mind was not perfectly free from prejudices. He appeared to be so much irritated by the conduct of the police officers that he worked himself up to a state of mind which was inconsistent with and prejudicial to the impartial and temperate discharge of his duties. From his remarks it also appeared that the Sessions Judge was labouring under the impression that he was being persecuted by the Government (and the Vakil did not say that the Session Judge did anything out of spite or grudge) which created a sort of feeling in his mind which made him unfit to judge the case with that judicial frame of mind which was absolutely necessary for the determination of a criminal case. In conclusion, Mr. Guha said, that considering all the circumstances of the case their lordships would come to the conclusion that the conclusion arrived at by the Court below was erronious and therefore ought to be set aside,

Mr. Gordon Leith criticised at some length the remarks of the vakil for the appellants and submitted that the conviction should be upheld, as the evidence in the case had been believed not only by the Sessions Judge but also by the assessors. Mr. Guha was then heard in reply. Their lordships reserved judgment.

THE MASTER CHRISTIAN.

(A Soliloquy.)

THE Lieutenant turned from his reading, crying
'This book is a bore,
With its nameless callous worldlings and clerical sinners galore ;
Why does she rant at the clergy ? Why does she censure them all.
Deeming none fit for his office, each unprepared for his "call" ?

List to him, Marie Corelli ! Hark, for his counsel wise !—
'Why wax so wildly hysteric ? Think you the padres will "rise" ?
Little they heed of your raving, little they care for your blame.
The good will be good and the bad ones, ever and ever the same.

'Why spatter mud on the broadcloth ? Granted there are those who seek
Goods of this world in abundance, only of them should you speak ;
Man is not cut out of cardboard, patterned to fit in his trade.
Marvel you then that a scoundrel, sometimes a parson is made ?

'Fills it your spirit with wonder, if sometimes the clerical saint,
Exhibits beneath pious polish, the traces of white-wash and paint !
Is there a craft without failure ? Is there a flock that can keep
Each of its members untainted, ever avoid the black sheep !

The Lieutenant yawned, as he murmured, 'Marie Corelli, your're

NAVAL AND MILITARY NOTES.

THE Army Estimates and the explanation of the Government proposals made by Mr. Brodrick are fully reported by our foreign Service contemporaries. The "France Militaire" considers the statement made in the House of Commons to be a convincing proof of the repugnance of the British nation to obligatory service. We shall experiment with every system before arriving at that solution of our difficulties. Our contemporary expresses the views of M. Camille Pelletan, who was reporter upon the French Budget of 1899. This gentleman describes our necessities, and remarks that we do not wish, and do not dare, to attempt conscription, which, in a modified form, Mr. Brodrick has suggested as a possible expedient. M. Pelletan does not think that it will ever be adopted, since obligatory service has never been forced upon any country except by tragic and disastrous experiences. He therefore believes, inasmuch as the metropolis seems secure, that if what he describes as Imperialism or "Chauvinistic megalomania" should impel statesmen to ask for compulsory service, they would encounter invincible opposition. He believes, however, that by conscription alone can we raise adequate forces. The pretension to do so by other means, in his view, is absurd, because, if it were possible, it would be both ruinous and dangerous. Finally, M. Pelletan remarks that he knows the fleet is regarded as our protection, but he adds obscurely that science is there, and that the next naval war will have surprises of which no one may venture to penetrate the secret.

The Government proposal of placing a portion of the Royal Marine Force in the minor coaling stations has, we hear, been received with something like dismay by the officers and men of that corps. The provision of a battalion or two to be attached to the First Army Corps, and the opening up of a few good shore appointments, might make the service very popular. But the question of the future of the marines hangs in the balance, and it is rumoured that no decisive step will be taken until the whole matter has been thrashed out by a committee of experts. It may be asked and very appositely, who is an expert in this matter—the naval officer or the marine officer? The weight of argument seems to be on the side of the former. The marine officer has mainly to consider how far recruits will be discouraged or led to the colours by the new scheme. But it rests with the naval expert to tell the country why the navy requires marines at all; whether their shore training fits them for the naval service; and what part or lot an admiral desires to play in the defence of these minor naval bases? The rising generation of naval men do not hanker after marines, though they speak most favourably of their splendid qualities, and the idea is prevalent that Sheerness, Whale Island, and Keyham Naval Barracks can turn out the small-arms men, who will be equally good gunners as tacticians within the limits assigned to naval brigades. On the other hand, the seamen will not be so cheap unless the marine headquarters ashore are dispensed with altogether, and the money spent on them devoted to the training of the twenty thousand or more seamen required to take the place of the corps.

Two infantry men attended at Marlborough House in order that the King, with whom was Earl Roberts, might inspect the proposed new head dress for the troops. One of the men wore the ordinary dress helmet, of black material, with bright metal facing, and the other the proposed new covering. The latter was a khaki-coloured slouch hat, with wide brim, much after the style of those used in South Africa. The puggaree, however, was replaced by a dark blue band, and the brim of the hat was caught up by studs at three points, one on each side of the wearer's forehead and the third at the back. A stiff red algrette, somewhat similar to that worn by Royal equerries, but a little shorter, was fixed to the front part of the crown. The suggestion is that the hat shall be worn in this fashion for dress purposes, and that for undress purposes the ornamentation be removed, two of the studs discarded, and the brim looped up at the side only, just as is done in the case of the South African troops. It is understood that His Majesty disapproved of the innovation, or at all events preferred the ordinary helmet for dress purposes.

Attention is being directed in France to the method proposed by Captain Gerard, the inventor of the folding bicycle, for using the soldier's knapsack as a shelter from machine gun, shrapnel, and possibly from rifle fire. The knapsacks of a squad or company, being placed vertically in juxtaposition would form a wall of assumed adequate height, and it is believed by Captain Gerard that the screen would offer sufficient resistance to the penetration of small projectiles. He has accordingly devised a rapid system by which men may disengage their knapsacks, and place them for defence, at the command "Abritez-vous!" within a period of something like fifteen seconds, and he urges the artillery to test the defensive qualities of screens of the class.

General de Monard has relinquished the command of the 20th French Army Corps at the conclusion of his three years' term of service. He does so in accordance with Article 14 of the Law of July 24, 1873, which had fallen into desuetude, and some surprise was expressed at the measure being put in force again. The "Progrès Militaire" points out that in fixing three years as the term of command, the National Assembly desired that the generals should not combine their functions as in the nature of a rank. The purpose was, and is, to fit as many general officers as possible for the command of large bodies of troops. They are to direct their efforts in the first year to learning and observing, in the second to confirming or rectifying their judgments, and in the third to the practical employment or use of the principles acquired, they may have arrived. The National Assembly was also guided by another consideration. It remembered the subordination of Canrobert under the orders of Pelissier on the one hand, and the lessons of Metz on the other, and the difficulties which had arisen from the presence of marshals on certain occasions influenced its decision. It questioned if Bazaine might not have surrendered his command to De Ladmirault if he had not had to count with Marshals Canrobert and Lebœuf. Hence there must now be many fitted for important commands, but none predominant, except as directed by letters of service, and the "Progrès" considers the revived rule to be the safeguard of the command.

The French Deputies who represent the wine-growing districts are determined that French soldiers shall be wine drinkers. The wine is produced, and it must be consumed, and M. Narbonne, chief among these Deputies, ridicules doctors who are not content to prescribe for men who are ill, but are anxious to direct the course of life of those whose health is sound. In other words, hygienic considerations had no weight with him, and he and his friends were able to speak with the authority of such a great majority behind them that an experiment is to be made in distributing daily rations of wine, cider and beer to the troops. One of our military contemporaries considers this measure dangerous. All those who are acquainted with the ration of the French soldier know that it lacks acids and fatty constituents, which can only be supplied by increasing the ration of beef and pork, while wine and other alcoolic beverages are absolutely useless for supplying the human body with the elements of physical vigour.

The "Rousski Invalid" states that upon the return of the 13th Regiment of Russian Rifles from the Far East the Minister of War proceeded to the port of disembarkation and personally inspected the baggage. There were opened before him 102 boxes and cases, and in only eleven of them were Chinese objects discovered. The collection was made up as follows:—four toys, five lacquered boxes, two knives, two vests, two skeins of silk, and one fan. The "Invalid" draws attention to the fact that this particular regiment was present at the capture of Moukden, when the opportunities of pillage were very many, and that consequently the results of this inspection reduced to nothing the accusations of looting made against the Russian troops in certain foreign journals. We must leave our readers to judge for themselves as to whether the evidence is conclusive.

A Paris journal gives the particulars of the new field piece adopted by the Belgian Government, upon which several experiments have been made in the presence of the technical committee of the Belgian artillery and engineers of the Nordenfelt Company. It is a quick-firing gun of 75 millimètres, and resembles in more points than one the French cannon of the same calibre, except that the gear for pointing is more simplified, and the parts can be adjusted with greater facility. The evident inferiority of the new weapon lies in the brake system which is composed of a kind of metallic brake block, joined to the axle-tree by an eccentric intended to prevent the recoil of the piece as much as possible. After each discharge it has to be placed in position anew, unlike the French gun, which has a hydropneumatic brake which, by its automatic action, replaces it in its position for use. This gives to the French weapon the means to rain on the enemy from fifteen to twenty projectiles per minute. Notwithstanding the brake system in the Belgian Nordenfelt, it has, without difficulty, been able to fire twelve to the minute. The projectile which it discharges with an initial velocity of 525 metres per second weighs 6 1-2 kilogrammes. The principal characteristics of the gun are:—Total length, 2m.40; number of grooves, 24; weight of the arm, 345 kilogrammes; diameter of the wheels, 1m. 32; total weight carriage and equipment, 920 kilogrammes; length of the cartridge 257 millimetres; interior pressure of the chamber, 2,200 atmospheres. The limber is composed of ten ammunition boxes, containing forty cartridges; it weighs, equipped for service, 789 kilogrammes.

THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR ON BOOKS.

MR. CHOATE, United States Ambassador, presided on the 18th ultimo, at the Chelsea Town Hall when Mr. A. Birrell, K.C., delivered a lecture on "A Backward Glance at English Literature during the Past Century." The gathering was held in aid of the funds of the Chyne Hospital for Sick and Incurable Children, Cheyne-walk, Chelsea. Among those present were Mr. Leonard Courtney, Lord Justice Rigby, and Cannon Wilberforce.

The lecture having been delivered by Mr. Birrell, who briefly dealt with the works of most of the great authors of the last century.

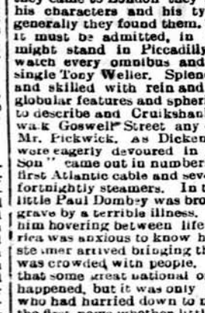
Mr. Choate in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Birrell for his lecture, said it was delightful to follow such a guide as Mr. Birrell through the long procession of the great writers of the century just closed. In the progress of the 19th century the world had become so full of books that whoever suggested a wise selection among them did a great service to the reading public. All the great writers of English in the 19th century were the common property of all who spoke the English tongue. It mattered not at all in which country the author of a good book lived, it was in these days immediately seized upon by the voracious reading public of the whole world. The English language in its wonderful fluidity and rapid spread recognised no international boundaries and carried the thoughts which it expressed around the globe with the speed of steam and electricity, visiting all the continents and the islands of the sea. And as all readers every where got the benefit of the brains of all authors, was it a mere fanciful dream, or would it be realised in the distant future that all authors would get the reciprocal benefit of all their readers without regard to international or colonial limits, so that a copyright property secured anywhere would be good anywhere, like any other right of property? He could not but think that the vast majority of readers required something easier than Carlyle or Browning and fell back upon books which could be read without thinking and remembered without effort. The works of fiction published each year in England and America more than doubled the number of those published in any other department of literature. In his country, in regard to the five most successful works written during the last five years, the number of copies printed reached from 250,000 to 500,000, so that if each copy sold reached ten readers there was the enormous audience for each of those authors of from 2,500,000 to 5,000,000. The value and the influence of great writers such as Scott, Dickens, and Thackeray, Jane Austen, and George Eliot could not be overestimated. They could be found in the Despatch-boxes of Ministers and Ambassadors, beneath the gowns of Bishops and Judges, in the knapsacks of the soldiers, the bunks of the sailors, and the mining camp. As to Scott, he would give them the tribute of one of the greatest American men of letters, his most illustrious predecessor, James Russell Lowell, to that wonderful "Wizard of the North," as it came to him the other day. Lowell's end was very near. He and all his friends knew well that for him the silver cord of life would soon be loosed. Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes went out to pay him a last visit at his house in Elmwood. The two had always been like brothers, calling each other by their first names. As the Doctor entered his room he said, in his usual bright and breezy way, "Well James, how are you to-day?" And Lowell on his couch, clasping a little book in his hands, looked up with a bright smile and answered, "Wendell, I don't know how I am, and I don't care—I'm reading 'Rob Roy.'" Dickens had done for England and London what Scott did for Scotland and Edinburgh. He had made this great metropolis very familiar to Americans of his generation. When they came to London they sought out the haunts of his characters and his types of Englishmen, and generally they found them. There were some changes it must be admitted, in the last 50 years. They might stand in Piccadilly an hour together and watch every omnibus and coach without finding a single Tony Weller. Splendid as those drivers were and skilled with rein and whip, they had lost the globular features and spherical form which Boz loved to describe and Cruikshank to draw. They might walk Goswell Street any day without recognising Mr. Pickwick. As Dickens's books came out they were eagerly devoured in America. "Dombey and Son" came out in numbers before the laying of the first Atlantic cable and several numbers went over in fortnightly steamers. In the early part of the story little Paul Dombey was brought to the verge of the grave by a terrible illness. The last number had left him hovering between life and death and all America was anxious to know his fate. When the next steamer arrived bringing the decisive news the dock was crowded with people. The passengers imagined that some great national or international event had happened, but it was only the eager reading public who had hurried down to meet the steamer and get the first news whether little Paul was alive or dead. Emerson's book on "English Traits" was one of the most appreciative and valuable descriptions of English life and character that any foreigner had ever written, and was as true and readable to-day as when it came from the press 50 years ago.

"AUSTRALIAN MARRIAGE SHOPS."

SCATHING COMMENTS BY A JUDGE.

JUDGMENT was delivered in Sydney on the 25th ult. in the case of Clinese v. Cooper, respecting the will of the late Martha Clines, against the probate of which defendant had lodged a caveat on the grounds that the testatrix was not of sound mind and that the will had been obtained by undue influence. His Honour said he was not judicially satisfied that the document was the will of testatrix nor was he judicially satisfied that she was possessed of sufficient mental capacity to make a will on 11th September last. He therefore upset the will and ordered the plaintiff to pay the costs of the suit other than those occasioned by the charge of undue influence.

Mr. Justice Walker made some scathing remarks respecting matrimonial agencies while delivering judgment. He said that these "marriage shops," or matrimonial agencies, were a disgrace to the State, and ought to be suppressed by law. They served no useful purpose that he could discern. Those who wished to be married with the sanctity of religion had every opportunity afforded them for so doing by the various churches, while those who did not wish to have the sanctity of religion could be married by the registrars. No object that he could see could be alleged for resorting to these "marriage shops," unless it were that secrecy was desired. In the present case they had one of those matrimonial agencies, conducted by a man named Carolus, who had in his employ a Greek, who said he was—and his Honor had no reason to say he was not—a priest of the Greek Orthodox Church, and was apparently licensed to perform the ceremony of marriage. He was ready, at the suggestion of Carolus, his employer, to marry any number of people, at any hour, at eight shillings per couple, and to perform the ceremony in English, French, Italian, Arabic, Greek or, his Honor supposed, any other language. In Cline's case they had a Roman Catholic married to a woman belonging to the Church of England by a Greek priest stumbling through a garbled form of the Church of England marriage service. The minister was a man who even now could scarcely speak English, and who at that time must have been more indistinct. Then, that travesty of a religious service having been gone through, the parties, according to the evidence, resorted to sandwiches and whisky. These matrimonial agencies were not wanted, and were very undesirable things in the public interests. To show the extent to which the mischief had gone, Carolus had informed the court that he had brought about 2000 marriages. His Honor would be glad in the interest of reform, if this would be the last time this matter should merit comment from the bench.



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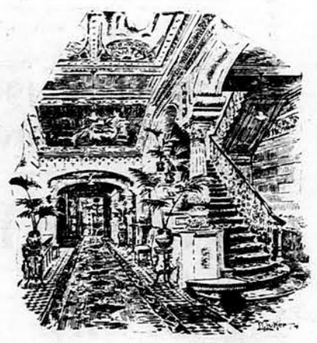

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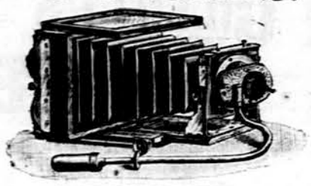

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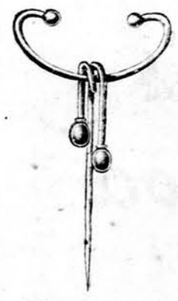

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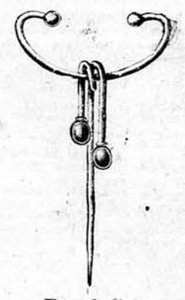

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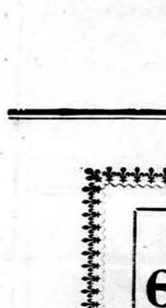

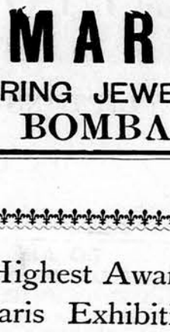

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